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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

"THE PENSION QUESTION."
READ ARTICLE ON FIFTH PAGE.

VOLUME LVIII. TOLEDO, OHIO: THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1890. NUMBER 13.

Our Serial Story.

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A TEMPERANCE STORY.

BY

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SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

The story opens in Liberty, a New England village. Dick is the son of John Graham, a workingman, who is addicted to drink. His family come to want, and he loses his employment. He is finally put into jail on suspicion of robbery, which he did not commit. The forced abstinence from rum while imprisoned makes him try once more to reform. He is given work by Farmer Gove, who pays his wages to Mrs. Graham, thus not allowing him to have any money to buy rum. Dick, then a lad, is taken as clerk in Mr. Webster's store. He proves himself industrious, zealous and faithful, and saves the store from robbery by trapping two burglars in the cellar. Dick has a boyish engagement with Sarah Gove, a girl of about his own age. Mr. Varney, a wealthy New York merchant, whose boyhood home was in Liberty, gets visited the place well remembered his old-time acquaintance with Mr. Webster, Dick's employer. He is attracted by the good qualities of Dick, and takes him into his employ in New York. Dick's fellow-clerks sneer at his temperance principles, and nickname him "Teetotaller Dick." They get Dick drunk by stratagem, in order that he may be prevented from mentioning to Mr. Varney that they drink, despite his rule to the contrary. Mr. discovered the plot, and summarily discharged all the clerks implicated in it. John Thomson, a fellow-boarder of Dick's, but not in Mr. Varney's employ, finding the risk Dick ran of dying from the drugging and dosing, declared to Dick his resolve also to become a teetotaller, and a close friendship between the two was the result. Dick returns to Liberty on a short visit. Sarah Gove has become a school teacher; they find they have drifted apart, and while they continue their engagement, it is with the tacit understanding that if the feelings of either become repugnant to a marriage, it shall be broken. Mr. Varney determines to send Dick to Europe on business for the firm, which must be kept a secret, and no one knows where he has gone, or for what purpose. His room-mate on the steamer was a Mr. Corning, and the trip was most agreeable. On landing, Dick meets Frank Fulton, who was one of the clerks dismissed by Mr. Varney for being implicated in the trick upon Dick. The two young men renew their friendship. Dick's first business visit is made upon Mr. Jordan, a wealthy Liverpool merchant, who entertains him hospitably.

CHAPTER XXXI.

TEMPERANCE IN THE BRITISH ISLES.

"We owe much to America," said Mr. Jordan, when the opportunity for renewing the conversation was presented, "and not the least of our indebtedness is for the temperance movement."

"Did you not have it here before we did?" Dick asked.

"I believe not," was the reply. "According to my information, you had temperance societies in one form or another early in the present century, and near the end of the last, while the first society on this side of the Atlantic was formed at New Ross, in the county of Wexford, Ireland, in 1829. It was started by a clergyman named Carr, and the members pledged themselves 'to abstain from the use of distilled spirits, except as a medicine in the case of boldily ailment; and they further agreed not to provide them for the entertainment of friends.' About the same time a similar movement was started in the north of Ireland, and within a year there were 30 societies, with about 3,000 members, both Catholics and Protestants. In October of the same year a temperance society started in Glasgow, Scotland, on the same basis as the Irish one, the members agreeing to refrain from the use of spirits except as a medicine, but making no restrictions upon other liquors.

"In 1830 the temperance movement began in England, its starting point being at Bradford. It was brought about by a manufacturer named Forbes, who happened to be visiting Glasgow on business, and saw the work that was being performed there and its good results. On his return he organized the movement, which spread rapidly and was taken up in many other places. By the close of the year there were thirty temperance societies in England, with 10,000 members; and in the following year the British and Foreign Temperance society was formed, and for many years it was the leading society of the temperance party. The pledge taken by its members was very short and in the following words: 'We agree to abstain from distilled spirits except for medicinal purposes, and to discountenance the causes and practice of intemperance.' You observe that it made no restriction upon beer and wines, and hence arose an evil which was not foreseen by the starters of the movement."

"I readily understand what it was," said Dick, as his entertainer paused. "They found that the liberty to use beer and wines led to an increased consumption of those beverages, and also developed the taste and craving for ardent spirits."

"That was precisely the case," Mr. Jordan answered, "as had already been discovered in Scotland, and you had long before found out in America. There can be no safe rule regarding intoxicants except that of 'touch not, taste not, handle not'; moderation is very good in its way, and far preferable to drunkenness; but it is very far from being the best rule to follow. There was a great increase in the consumption of beer, and many of the signers of the old pledge were daily in a state of stupidity arising from their indulgence in the demoralizing stuff. Several societies were started on the principle of total abstinence, and in 1835, an association was formed, which was to embrace all the temperance societies in the country, and adheres rigidly to that rule.

"Then war broke out between the old association and the new one; but unlike a good many wars, it did more good than harm, as both parties worked with great zeal, and continued to increase their numbers, notwithstanding the difference in their views. If you win a drinking man from excess to moderation, you have gone far to pave the way to making him a total abstainer. This was the result, that the 'moderate' party gradually disappeared before the advance of teetotalism, most of its members going over to the newer and more restricted creed. We had for some time both kinds of pledges, and generally found that after a man had lived for a while according to the old he was willing to sign the new, provided, of course, he had not become a sot through drinking beer and cider, as frequently happened.

"There you have a brief history of the early days of the temperance movement in England," said Mr. Jordan. "There is now hardly a town or village in Great Britain that does not have its band of abstainers, and the statistics show that there are not far from three millions of teetotallers in the country, including women and children. Greater progress is made among the women and children than among adult men, and we have learned that the best plan to make a community temperate or abstinent is to teach the principle to the young people and let them start in life properly. I have heard that in your country the women are generally the supporters of the temperance cause, and that is the case here; women are the greatest sufferers by the drunken habits of men, and if the women of England could vote for the abolition of distilleries and breweries, I believe they would do so by an overwhelming majority. There is more drunkenness among women here than in America, and it comes in great measure from the curse of beer rather than from that of spirits. And where it is due to spirits, the taste is found to have been created by beer in nine cases out of ten, and I think in ninety-nine out of a hundred.

"Now that you find I am so strongly in favor of temperance you may wonder that I have wine on my table at dinner. Well, I didn't get the right to start in life, and so have been accustomed to a little wine ever since I was a young man. But I have never taken it otherwise than in moderation and do not allow my children to touch it; the merchants with whom I deal and the majority of my visitors are not averse to a glass, and so I've continued to present it to them. But whenever I am to have a visitor who I know to be liable to drink too much, he finds no wine on the table at dinner or any other meal.

"Though I don't belong to a teetotal society, I do belong to the United Kingdom Alliance, which was started in 1853 with the special object of securing restrictive or prohibitory legislation. The Alliance includes not only the temperance people but those who, though not themselves abstainers, are anxious to promote public sobriety. We tried to get a prohibitory law through Parliament, but we might as well have asked for a law requiring every man to wear a prison suit and have his head shaved every morning. Parliament would not listen to it, partly through the vested rights of the manufacturers and venders of drink, partly because there were only a small number of members of Parliament who believed in total abstinence, partly on account of the personal liberty question which has caused so much discussion in your country, and partly, too, on account of the enormous revenue which the government derives from the manufacture and sale of spirits and malt liquors. We fought for prohibition for some time, but it was of no use, and now we're trying for a Permissive Bill. Do you know what that is?"

The listener shook his head as he answered in the negative, and Mr. Jordan proceeded to enlighten him.

"We asked for what we call a Permissive Bill, which you denominate Local Option. We wanted the taxpayers of any parish to be allowed, by a two thirds vote, to abolish all public houses where liquors of any kind were sold, and to suppress the trade altogether. Thus far we have not succeeded, though we have made considerable advances in restricting the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and may do more as time goes on. We have shown that the amount of pauperism and crime is in direct proportion to the number of drinking places, and that, as the government has taken in hand the regulation of the traffic, thereby admitting its dangerous and demoralizing nature, it ought to stop it altogether in order to be consistent.

"Our opponents deny that drinking is the chief cause of pauperism, though they admit that it increases it; they argue that we have no right to dictate to men what they shall or shall not drink; that it would be impossible to enforce a stringent prohibitory law, and the successful evasion of it would lead to a disregard for all laws by putting a large part of the public in constant opposition to them. They also claim that compulsory abstinence would not produce the same effect as voluntary abstinence; that men would seek other intoxicants that would be more harmful than alcohol, and resort to vices more destructive than drinking. They make the further argument that it is unfair to talk of money being wasted in liquors any more than in bread, beef or any other article that is consumed by men, and that the object of all industry is the power to purchase whatever is desired. And some of the friends of the liquor traffic argue that the population would increase too rapidly if it were not checked by disease, so that these islands would be too densely populated for any body's comfort."

"That was the doctrine of Professor Malthus," said Dick. "He regarded disease, vice and everything else that killed off a certain portion of the population, as the friends of the human race or blessings in disguise. If he were alive to-day he would be one of the most persistent enemies of prohibition or restriction in the sale or use of alcoholic liquor that the temperance movement has ever seen."

Mr. Jordan made arrangements for his guest to be shown through the poorer parts of Liverpool, where the liquor traffic was least restricted and the work of making drunkards was pushed to its greatest ability, under the restrictions of the law. "We don't think we are as bad in this respect as London," said the gentleman, "but we are bad enough, in all conscience. Perhaps the cause which operates in our favor is that London is a larger city."

Dick thought he had seen the dark side of the liquor traffic in his own country, and was quite unprepared for the horrors revealed by the English critics. We will quote from a letter which he wrote after making a "slumming" tour in London—that is, going through the slums of the great city in the evening, and noting what came under his observation.

* * * * * * *

"I stood in the street and looked into, not one, but a dozen, of the 'gin palaces,' or 'publics,' as they are called here. The description of one will answer for all. It was crowded with men and women, yes, and with children, too, the latter being sent there by their parents to beg for money to be spent in beer or gin, or carrying bottles or jugs to be filled at the bar. There were women with children in their arms standing at the bars drinking with men, and some of them offered the dregs at the bottoms of their glasses to the little children. This 'public' had three partitioned places in its bar; the first was for well-dressed people who were willing to pay higher prices for their drink than those who patronized the second places; and this again was dearer than the third. My friend who showed me about said that most of the people whom I saw entering the third class, or 'jug department,' as it was labelled on the door, had begun in the first class and went down, down, till they reached the ragged and dirty condition in which we saw them. And such a condition of dirt and rags and degradation I never saw in any part of New York as in the third class department they sell gin at a penny a glass, and there is a cheaper drink for those who have only a halfpenny to spend; it is the rinsings of the glasses in the other departments, all thrown together into tub—gin, whisky, brandy, and other stuff, and to this is added the slops that are gathered from the bar where they have been spilled by careless drinkers and wrung out of the rags with which the bar is wiped.

"Outside of one bar two women were fighting, and a crowd gathered, not to separate them, but to encourage the battle. Both were intoxicated and desperate; a policeman came slowly up as if he was in no hurry to stop the disgraceful spectacle, and really seemed to be as amused at it as any of the spectators. Before he interfered two more had started a fight a few yards away, and when the crowd was driven from one place it went to the other. The women were not arrested, but simply ordered to 'move on.' Fighting seems to be a common amusement here and nobody thinks anything of it; it is a wonder how much pounding an Englishman can endure without seeming to be injured by it.

"Drinking places are as numerous here as in New York and one of the streets appear to be principally occupied with them. They resemble those of New York in exerting a great influence upon legislation, and in some districts the elections are quite in their control. Most of them are owned by the great brewing establishments who hold the leases of the buildings or own them outright, and then place their agents there to manage the business. These agents are mere managers, and you may be sure they send nobody to Parliament or to the city council who does not favor their trade. The largest brewery is that of Barclay & Perkins; it covers twelve to fourteen acres of ground, and occupies the site of Shakespeare's Globe theater of three hundred years ago. They make 200,000 gallons of beer every day, and altogether it is said that the annual production of beer, ale and porter in Great Britain reaches 1,000,000,000 barrels, worth at wholesale about one hundred millions of dollars. There are other breweries all over the United Kingdom, all of them busy, and making enormous fortunes for their owners. You can readily see from this that the English are a beer-drinking people, even without meeting the beer shops which meet your eye at almost every turn. The residents of London average eighty gallons of beer annually for every man, woman and child of them, and it stands to reason that a great many beer shops are required to supply them all.

"The horses that draw the great wagons for Barclay & Perkins are the finest I ever saw in my life—enormous creatures, imported from Flanders, at a cost of from £60 to £100 each, (from $300 to $500.) How much they weigh I don't know, but they seemed to me like elephants. They are in splendid condition, and their coats shine like silk. I asked one of the drivers what he gave the horses to drink, and he answered:

"'Vy, water, of course. Yer didn't think we guv 'em beer, did yer?'

"'Well,' I answered, 'everybody here seems to think he needs beer to give him strength, and as these horses look so strong, and haul such big loads, I thought it must be that they have been fed on it.'

"The man looked as though in doubt whether I was really serious or only 'chaffing' him. Fearing he might say something rude, I left him to reflect as to the actual necessity of drinking beer to give strength to his arms. If these immense horses can thrive as they do on water only, could not men do the same?"

CHAPTER XXXII.

LIFE INSURANCE AND THE DRINKING HABIT.

In connection with the drinking evil in Great Britain we should not fail to notice the great work of Father Mathew, who became famous in his day as the "Apostle of Temperance."

He was an Irish Catholic priest, who was born in 1790 and died in 1856; his character was such that he was universally respected, both by the adherents of his church and by those who did not belong to it. His religious labors were always among the lower classes, and his first work after entering upon his religious life was to organize an association for visiting and caring for the sick poor of Cork. In 1838 he was invited by some teetotallers of that city to devise a plan for suppressing intemperance, and with this object in view he organized a Total Abstinence society, of which he was elected president. In five months he administered the pledge to 150,000 converts to temperance in the city of Cork; then he went to other cities of Ireland, where he lectured and administered the pledge, and it is said that in Galway 100,000 people took the pledge of total abstinence in two days and received medals from Father Mathew's hands. During his labors in the temperance cause he administered the pledge to nearly two millions of the inhabitants of Ireland alone, and subsequently to great numbers in England and the United States.

A curious circumstance in connection with his work was that his family was interested in breweries and distilleries, and the effect of his temperance crusade was to close those establishments and bring financial ruin upon the owners. Every one who took the pledge under his auspices received a medal, and many of these medals are carefully treasured by the owners of their children. A good many of his converts afterward broke their pledges; but the effect of his labors can still be seen in the temperance societies in Ireland and elsewhere that bear his name.

The following letter from Rev. Dawson Burns, D.D. metropolitan (London) superintendent of the United Kingdom Alliance, shows the present condition of the laws affecting the sale of intoxicants in Great Britain and Ireland. It is dated London, Oct. 18, 1889:

* * * * * * * *

"There is no local option or permissive act in operation in the United Kingdom. The House of Commons in the parliament of 1880-85 passed three resolutions, approving the principle of local option, the last by a majority of 89, but no law has yet been enacted. The licensing authority is the magistracy of Boroughs and Counties; and has absolute discretion in regard to nearly all classes of retail licenses.

"In England the law permits public houses, etc. to be open on Sundays between 1 and 3 p. m and 6 to 11 p. m. In Scotland there is entire Sunday closing, except the *bona fide* travelers, who can, however, only be served at hotels. In Ireland there is entire Sunday closing except in five cities, where the hours of opening are very few. In Wales there is entire Sunday closing, with, as in Scotland, the bona fide traveler exception. In England and Wales all public houses are closed from midnight until 3 in the morning, and, as a rule, drink shops do not open till 6 or 7, or later. The Sunday restrictions apply to Good Friday and Christmas day. The restrictions apply to all places where liquors are sold.

"It was found in 1868 that in the ecclesiastical province of Canterbury (two-thirds of England and Wales) there were about 1,360 places without any sale of intoxicating drinks, owing to the refusal of the owners of houses or landed property to permit such traffic. In the other one-third there were also many similar places; so also in Scotland and Ireland, and in all such instances the effects of the prohibition are of the most salutary character. In the Toxteth Park district of Liverpool 40,000 persons reside, without a drink shop among them; and one of the lodgings company in London has three estates, with an aggregate of 4,500 houses and a population of about 23,000, without a licensed liquor shop. Both the company and the tenants reap the advantage of this arrangement."

We will now go back to Frank Fulton, whom we left after he had made an appointment to meet Dick Graham at the hotel where the latter was staying in Liverpool.

Promptly at the hour named Mr. Fulton was announced, and in a few minutes the two were seated at the breakfast table.

"I suppose you hardly expected to see me here?" said Fulton, "and as to the matter of seeing me at all, you were in doubt."

"That's exactly the case," replied Dick. "I had lost sight of you completely; sometimes I thought of you and our old acquaintance, and wondered what had become of you."

"You probably thought I had gone to the dogs with drink, did you not?"

"Yes, I frankly admit it. You were so positive in you views as to the free moral agency of every man so far as drink is concerned that I naturally supposed you had met the fate that generally overtakes the free moral agent on that subject."

"You were quite justified in your belief," was the reply, "and if I had stuck to my old views I should have gone to the bowwows long ago. In fact I was well on the road before I took the turning to, and for, the right."

"I can't tell you how gratified I am that you changed your course, nor how glad I am to see you now," Dick responded.

"You were the cause of my turning teetotaller, if anybody was," said Fulton. "I used to regard you as a prig who considered yourself better than anybody else just because you didn't drink. I want to apologize for thinking so, and now I'll tell you how it came about that I got out of the road I was going."

Without waiting to hear whether his apology was accepted or not, Fulton immediately started on his story, which somewhat interfered with the progress of the breakfast, though not sufficiently so to prevent its being treated with justice. Dick was a deeply interested listener, and occasionally propounded a question whenever Fulton paused in his narration to take breath or a mouthful of food.

"After leaving the house of Varney & Company," said he, "I found a situation with a firm which wasn't so strict in its views of temperance, and very naturally so, as they were engaged in the liquor trade, among other things. They were heavy importers of French brandies and Spanish wines, and their policy was to encourage drinking in order to improve the market for their goods. The clerks in their employ could do what they pleased out of office hours, and so long as they appeared in proper condition at their desks in the morning and performed their duties, no fault was found with them. I thought it a much more sensible way of business than the strict rules of Mr. Varney, and congratulated myself on the change.

"I was fond of a glass now and then, but never dreamed that I could ever drink to excess. Little by little I found the appetite increasing on me, but I ran with a lot of good fellows, who laughed and jeered when I suggested it was time to switch off a little, and so I kept on. We made a night of it pretty nearly every night, and very often I turned up at the office with a 'head on' me that made my hat feel a good deal to small. I tried to stop but had such a miserable time sitting by with the other fellows and refusing drinks, or going about by myself, that I went at it again after two or three days' trial.

"It was hard work to make both ends meet, as the drinking absorbed a good part of my wages; but I managed to struggle along, and even to send a little money now and then to my mother, who was living in the country and needed a few dollars every month from my brother in Boston and myself.

"I got brought up with a round turn one day when I went to get my life insured so that my mother would have something in case of my death. The secretary of the company turned me over to the medical examiner, who asked me a lot of questions about the family health and my own, all of which I answered satisfactorily. I thought he was going to pass me when all of a sudden he asked if I drank.

"I told him that I did now and then, but not to excess.

"'How much do you drink in a day?' was his next question.

"'I can't tell exactly,' I answered; 'perhaps three or four times. I never drink during the day when business is on hand.'

"'You say you take three or four drinks in a day,' he said; 'don't you often take as many as five or six?'

"I felt myself growing red in the face as I told him that quite likely I did; the fact was I knew I took that number, and more too. Then he asked me if I didn't frequently go to bed with my skin well filled, although I couldn't call myself drunk. Of course I had to own up to that, but probably it didn't make much difference in the result, as the three or four drinks a day that I admitted were enough to settle his mind.

"'We can't take you as a risk,' said the examiner, and I felt my heart going down in my boots. Then I asked if he would take me as a risk if I came back in a year without having taken a drink in the mean time.

"He said he wouldn't, but that if I came back a teetotaller in two years, not having touched a drop in that time, he would pass me, provided of course, no disease of any kind had developed that was not then apparent. I went away feeling that I was disgraced, and before going a dozen steps from the office made up my mind that I would have that insurance policy if I lived!"

Here we will pause in the story and allow Fulton and Dick to go on with their breakfast while we say a few words about intemperance considered from the point of view of life insurance.

Most of the life companies reject any one who is addicted to drinking; or if they do not absolutely reject him, they postpone consideration and require a term of probation, according to the case. In the instance before us Mr. Fulton was required to be a teetotaller for two years before he could be again considered; a milder case would be let off with a shorter term, while a severer one would have a longer probation or be rejected at once.

The Equitable Life Insurance company of New York has a volume entitled "The Life Insurance Examiner," which was prepared especially for the use of its medical examiners throughout the country and the world. Under the head of "hereditary alcoholism" it contains the following:

"Two forms are recognized. The first form is the direct transmission of the disease or defect from parents to children. This hereditary propensity is apt to show itself in early life; instances are numerous where it begins late in life, and again when children are reared and educated away from their parents, under a favorable environment, and yet develop the propensity unerringly. The hereditary tendency is not always manifested in a desire to drink. It may consist in feebleness of nervous constitution; such victims may be moral imbeciles, with an insatiable craving for nervous stimulants of all kinds and constant excitements. The general laws of hereditary are illustrated in the transmission of alcoholism. The tendency may come down from father to son, or skip one or more generations, assuming in the intermittent period some other form of nervous disorder.

"The second form is indirect, and consists, not in the inheritance of a taste for alcohol, but in a morbid tendency to mental and nervous disorders of a different kind, such as epilepsy, hysteria, the various forms of insanity, every degree of arrested mental development from feeble-mindedness to complete idiocy, etc. Such offsprings are pale and puny, and the victims of all morbid influences."

In regard to the rejection or acceptance of the application for life insurance of a drinker, the same volume says:

"History of delirium tremens always rejects. The habitual drunkard should be rejected, and also those cases which show the inherited taint, in both their history and present condition and habits. Most of the large companies absolutely reject all persons having anything to do with the retailing of alcoholic drinks."

Postponement is made in all applications where intemperance, either systematic or occasional, is shown, and also all cases of reformed drunkards. All persons who exceed a daily consumption of more than 1½ ounces of alcohol are postponed, and unless reformation is made they are rejected. The allowance is equal to three fluid ounces of ardent spirits, two wineglassfuls of sherry or other strong wine, a pint of claret, champagne or other light wine, three glasses of strong ale or porter, or five glasses of light ale or lager beer.

Where there is a suspicion of drinking habits, life insurance examiners make a searching cross-examination and very often require some proof other than the word of the applicant. They know very well the demoralizing effect of alcohol and how readily a man under its control will lie unblushingly concerning his personal habits. One distinguished examiner puts the case thus:

"We read in the Bible that the Psalmist said in his haste, 'all men are liars'; I say it deliberately of all men who drink."

Let us return to our friends whom we left at breakfast.

"It was not so easy to give up drinking as I thought it would be," said Fulton. "My surroundings were all in favor of the old road, and I soon realized that if I would stop I must change my associates altogether, and go where drinking was not done, where there would be no temptation to intemperance.

"A chance offered for me to go on a long sea voyage—to China and then to other distant parts of the world before coming back. I was to be the supercargo of a vessel at fair wages, considering that I had my board and lodging included, and I eagerly accepted the offer, principally for the reason that it would take me out of the way of drink.

"We sailed from New York and after getting over a touch of seasickness I enjoyed the voyage very much. The new mode of life was interesting, and the pure air of the ocean gave me such an appetite as I had not enjoyed for years. I lived in the cabin with the captain and his officers and found them agreeable companions; there was no chance of violating my pledge even had I been so disposed, as liquors were not placed on the cabin table or served out in any way except in case of illness.

"Everything went well until we got down to the south of the equator. We had a succession of calms while crossing the line, and at times the heat was terrific so that everybody slept on deck at night, as the ship was so hot as to make the air stifling below. Soon after catching the wind that bowled us along to the South, we struck a gale that did a lot of damage, and at one time the captain thought the ship would go down with all on board, as no boat could have lived in the sea that was running.

"While the gale was at its height, the second mate reported water in the hold, and everybody was set to work at the pumps to keep her clear. We knew that our lives depended on it, and every man did his best. There we were, partially disabled by the gale, and with a leak that was threatening to send us to the bottom, and hundreds of miles away, and no prospects of a favoring breeze to help us towards it.

"I thought of home and friends whom I might never see again, and how bitterly did I regret the errors of my life that had brought about the occasion of my going to sea! But there was no use crying over what couldn't be helped, and I told the captain he could count on me for anything that was in my power to do."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Where It Surpasses Ancient Egypt.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The farmers of southern Illinois are talking of making Egypt one great strawberry patch. Egypt may never be the land of milk and honey, but where is the man living who would trade strawberries and cream for milk and honey.

Our New Testament Serial.

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"COME FORTH."

A STORY OF THE TIME OF CHRIST.

BY ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS,

Author of "The Gates Ajar," "Beyond the Gates," etc.

AND THE REV. HERBERT D. WARD.

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

Ariella, the bedridden daughter of Malachi and Hagaar, is left almost alone in their house at Bethany for the day, while they go up to Jerusalem. Baruch, the blind man, is brought by his mother to beguile Ariella's loneliness; a tender sentiment is growing between these two afflicted people. Baruch suggests that Ariella might be cured by the marvelous power of the young rabbi, Jesus of Nazareth. Malachi the Pharisee, Ariella's father, comes home in a towering rage over Jesus's discourse in the synagogue, in which the hypocrisy of the Pharisees is denounced, and orders his wife and daughter to have nothing to do with Jesus. Baruch's mother, Rachel, invites Ariella to visit her and spend the night. Her parents assent, and the lame girl is carried on a litter to her friend's home. That evening Jesus comes and heals her. Ariella is well-nigh mad with joy, and walks to her home in the morning. Her father is fearfully angry over the matter, and accuses Ariella of having deceived him, alleging that she had not been sick. He keeps Ariella shut up in the house, that the miracle may not be known. Hagaar, her mother, takes her secretly out of the house and puts her in the care of Baruch's mother. Jesus heals Baruch's blindness. The close friendship between himself and Ariella, begun when both were afflicted, ends in their happy marriage.

Lazarus, who is a contractor and builder, goes to the house of Annas, the ex-high priest, to make some repairs. Several times during the progress of the work he meets Zahara, the beautiful daughter of Annas, and falls madly in love with her. He declares his love, which she scornfully rejects shortly after. Annas goes with his daughter to spend the hot months at his villa at Capernaum, on the shores of the sea of Galilee. Lazarus is summoned thither to build an addition to the villa. One evening at sunset Zahara, with her maidens, goes sailing on the lake. A sudden tempest comes down upon the sea. Lazarus notes that her boat is driving across the lake toward the east, but darkness falls, and he can not see it longer. He rides wildly along the shore, far beyond the city, when a sudden calm comes down upon the sea, and in a gleam of unearthly light he sees Jesus come walking upon the water, bearing the dripping and insensible form of Zahara. He places her on the shore, at Lazarus's side, and disappears. Zahara and Lazarus exchange mutual endearments, and she declares that she will marry him, and him alone, despite the difference in their stations in life. They reach the home of Annas, where Zahara tells her father Lazarus has saved her, and Annas receives him with gratitude as her deliverer, insists on Lazarus remaining as his guest. The next day, however, Lazarus informs Annas that Jesus saved the girl from the waves. The high priest, who hates Jesus, is angry, and Lazarus leaves his house, and abandons his contract. After the return of Annas and his family to Jerusalem, Lazarus discovers a secret passage in the Temple crypts to the high priests' garden, and the lovers utilize it for many secret meetings. Zahara implores Lazarus to abandon the Nazarene. At one of their stolen night meetings, the absence of Zahara from the palace is discovered, and search of the grounds is made.

CHAPTER XIX.

THERE was merriment in the house of Malachi. The people of Bethany were once again wending their ways to his now notorious door. Ready to forget a scandal for a feast, and to forgive an unpleasant reputation for a frolic, the neighbors collected one bright winter day, and salaamed across the Pharisee's threshold politely in gala clothes. The occasion was no less than the marriage of his daughter.

It was a question of much local interest when or how Ariella and Baruch had effected the preliminaries to this event. Their betrothal, which was a solemn affair, according to the customs of their people, had taken place scarcely six weeks before the marriage day; Malachi had surrendered to the situation by the hardest; but he had surrendered thoroughly. Malachi was a shrewd fellow, who took no long time to perceive the pit of unpopularity in which he had dropped. Something must be done to retrieve himself among his neighbors and acquaintances. Why his very rentals had begun to decline! Gossip gave him the name of a hard man; and tenants were afraid of him. This would clearly never do. Malachi consulted what he called his own soul, kept his counsel, confided in nobody, admitted nothing, but against the growing intimacy of his daughter and Baruch, to the amazement of Hagaar, he offered no protest. In fact he seemed to see or know as little as possible of the love affair, treating it with a cold indifference which would have wounded to the quick a daughter whose affection he had ever chosen to cultivate. When Hagaar timidly announced one night that Baruch had formally made request for the hand of Ariella, her father scornfully replied:

"The girl is naught but a nuisance about the house since all this sorcerer's business hath set her against her own flesh and blood. Let her marry the beggar if she will. I shall only be too glad to be rid of her."

It was more difficult to say when the lovers themselves had reached the definite mile-stone of their marriage in their vague and somewhat serial courtship. Tormenting and blessing each other by turns of devotion and withdrawal, they had at last come to the limit of a kind of spiritual caprice—who could tell how? They themselves, perhaps least of all. Fate had led them by strange ways into the common human circumstance of fortunate love. Marriage, for so long impossible, nay, the inconceivable in their afflicted lives, was the last thing to make itself practicable, nay, the last, perhaps, to make itself necessary to their new and happy lot. The possession of the simplest human faculties—the unregarded preciousness of sight, the unestimated mercy of the power of locomotion—treasures so usual that other loving men and women noted it not—this was paradise enough at first for Baruch and Ariella.

The thrill of health, the delirium of vision, the late sweet consciousness of having become like other of God's creatures, here was the fruit upon the tree of life. Slowly they came to the knowledge of the good and the evil in unshared experience. They arrived at the necessity of uniting their blessedness, by those almost unapparent stages which sometimes make the period of courtship as delicate and as fair as the prism in an opal, and sometimes crowd it with sharp pangs and perils that go too far to destroy its delight.

At any rate, however, they did it, they came to the old familiar turn in the winding road of love; and, insensibly as one foot follows another in a long march, they passed with extraordinary sensitiveness, into ordinary happiness.

The wedding of Ariella was a great event in the hamlet of Bethany. Her father unexpectedly developed a stubborn vanity in the matter, and insisted on as much show as possible; partly, Hagaar suspected, as a taunt to the poverty of the bridegroom, who naturally, poor fellow, had not so much as a trade yet, to show for himself; though he had prospective opportunities to acquire the delicate handicraft of constructing musical instruments; for which both his taste and his refined fingers were well adapted. But at all events, Ariella was ceremoniously married.

The girl bore herself through the gayeties of the evening like a white flower, still and sweet. There was something singular about her beauty, which seemed less bridal than celestial to look upon. The rudest eye regarded the pale, slight, serious bride with reverence; and the rudest tongue—which alas, sometimes gave itself freedom at the wedding of those times—bridled before her.

"Verily," said Martha, the widow of Simon the Leper, "the marriage of those twain is like unto the marriage of two ghosts. This wedding seemeth to me like the rising from the dead."

"It seemeth to me as happy as a resurrection," said Mary, smiling, "if that be the meaning of thy thought."

The pleasant tumult, the laughter and jesting, song, music, dance and feasting circled about Baruch like the movement of fays, or beautiful witches or beings of another race. He found it to be confusing to become akin to his kind, by all this commonplace festivity. It made him silent, like a spectator. Yet, perhaps, Baruch liked all well enough in his own way. The godliest saint has a throb of pleasure in finding himself forced to share in human merriment like other people. Baruch looked on with a remote smile. He heard the quick, soft breath of Ariella. He took her by the hand, before all the world; he gazed upon her spiritual beauty, intoxicated with love, as was natural to seeing could look upon a bride like that?

As one stirreth in a vision, Baruch led her from her father's house. The procession formed in swift bright links, to bear her away. The home of his mother would receive the bridegroom and bride. Chaplets of myrtle crowned the heads of the bridal party. All the flowers that the season could yield were showered before their happy feet. Perfumes filled the air. Timbrels sounded shrilly. Sweet singers chanted love-songs. The light bearers bore brazen and carven lamps filled with scented oil, and fastened to the top of poles. These flickered gently upon laughing faces and rich robes, and the wavering outline of dancing figures.

"Impossible," thought Ariella, "that this bridal is I. It seemed to her every moment as if she would rouse a moment—shudder and fall back on that bed of misery, that nine-years' old grave, and lie there helpless, hopeless, aching, and start and sob because she had waked out of such a pretty dream.

"Impossible," said Baruch, "that this enraptured man is I." He looked at Ariella. Her long, fair hair flowed like sunlight down her shoulders; it rippled in the light as she moved. Her robe was of silver-white tissue, half transparent and shining. Her delicate throat was visible. A chain of gold encircled it. The chain stirred with the heaving of her breast. Her hands and white arms trembled. Baruch said to himself: "I shall turn my head and darkness will blot it all out. The vision will shatter before me. I shall strain my sightless eyeballs till they burst, and my brain. I shall move in blackness. I shall be guided of a lad upon a solitary way."

But when he saw the lad Enoch verily stand up upon his valuable head, in a prominent place at the front of the procession, and wearing his chaplet of myrtle upon one waggling foot, Baruch concluded his situation possessed the elements of reality. He recovered himself and crushed the hand of Ariella, like any common bridegroom, and was only uncommon to this, that he blessed God because of his earthly joy, and remembered that it was of Heaven.

In the bliss of Ariella and Baruch there was one sturdy disappointment. First in their thought had been the great benefactor of their afflicted and blessed lives. To welcome him among the marriage guests would have added the last throb to delight and the last prayer to the sacredness of the hour. His benediction would have brought their joy to its highest and most solemn level. The Rabbi might even have married them, Ariella thought. But the Rabbi was not to be found. He was traveling in distant villages, followed by blessing and malediction, by trust and suspicion, by adoration and enmity, by a few faithful friends and by a mob of curious; by the scorn of the socially influential, the espionage and hatred of ecclesiastics, by the loving tears and smiles of the poor, the sick, the crippled, unlucky, unhappy, of the outcasts, erring, and despised of men. The Rabbi was about what he called his Father's business. These were strange words to the followers who so blindly loved, but so darkly comprehended that mystical life. Perhaps few were constituted so as to have understood them better than these two young people, whose experience of suffering had refined both the imagination and the spiritual vision necessary to the case. Yet their conception of it was vague and poor enough. As one looks back upon that sublime history, the most touching thing about it seems to be the heart-breaking solitariness of the man whose nearest friend could not apprehend his simplest motive.

His motive for not appearing at the marriage festivity of Ariella and Baruch was probably a complex one. For one thing, the excitement caused by these two memorable cures was enormous. Jerusalem felt it, and Bethany thrilled with it. A hint of the probable presence of the Healer would have turned the village into a camp, and the bridal party into the center of a mob. True, it might have been a mob of respectable intentions enough; but every poor wretch within call would have swelled it; cripples and lepers crawled in the bridal train of Ariella; and as to Jesus himself, who could say what would have been done unto him by the clamorous people? They were capable of smothering him to death or to a throne.

As the marriage train approached the house of the bridegroom, a traveler coming from the direction of Jerusalem observed it at a distance, and stopped suddenly. It was the beautiful custom of the Jews that whoever met the bridal or the burial party should turn his steps and follow it. Etiquette required this courteous act of every stranger, no less than any friend. He who stood watching the bridal procession of Ariella and Baruch was a grave and weary man, with the aspect of one who had traveled far and needed rest. He had a certain homeless look, pathetic to see, which showed itself in his very attitude, and the slow, sad motion of the head with which he turned to view the happy scene. His first purpose seemed to be to shrink from the step into the shadow of trees by the roadside, and there remain concealed. This he did for such a space of time as the procession required to pass him. No person observed him. When the bridal train had swept by him, the man stepped forth and followed it. He walked at a little distance, slowly, almost shyly, making no sign of his presence. This man was the Nazarene. When Ariella put her foot across the threshold of her husband's house, he stood still and extended his hands in silent benediction. Having given this mute and beautiful expression of his sympathy with the happiest marriage that Judea had known for many a year, he returned as he had come; and no man had knowledge of his presence.

When Lazarus and Zahara came forth from the subterranean passage at the alarm of the slave, no person but Abraham was found to be in sight. Lazarus deftly and swiftly replaced the slide and drew the thick grape vine closer to it. The night was very dark. The rain beat against the vine, and dripped heavily from leaf to leaf upon the trembling form of Zahara, who shrunk within the frail shelter, not daring to venture she knew not what. Lazarus having exchanged a few whispered words with Abraham, said abruptly: "Zahara, my own, there is no gainsaying the matter, we must part and at once. One kiss, my love, one more, one more, one more. Now return thou to the palace of thy father, with all speed. Rebecca awaits thee at the upper terrace. I go, but I go not too far to watch for thy saf

the simpler life. Let us join the career of the best and noblest man in all Judea, and go forth from the place as his disciples go, respected and free, into other lands—"

"I do not understand thee," interrupted Zahara, shrinking a little from Lazarus.

"Oh, my love, play not with me," entreated Lazarus, "I do but speak plainly. I see no other road to happiness for thee and me. Remain thou in the world of thy father, the High Priest, and of the temple, and of the Sanhedrin, and of the rank and the faith to which thou art born—and thou canst no more be mine than the sun is mid-heaven, and that thou knowest well. As we meet here, beneath the surface of the sweet earth, at peril of thy good name and my poor life—so must our love crawl underground, a dark and deadly corridor in which two souls shall grope and sniff into death. Break then forth right bravely! Be more thou, most womanly Zahara, and choose the path that thy lord's feet must tread. I have worldly goods; thou canst not suffer at my hands for the daily needs of my delicate life. Follow me, Zahara! Follow me among the people who will reverence thee and me and the love we bear each other. Follow me to a new life—new hopes—new faith—new ideals—new joy."

"And call the Nazarene my master?" asked Zahara, in a cutting tone. Her arms dropped from the neck of her lover. She turned coldly. He could feel her pliant fingers grow rigid and straighten haughtily.

Suddenly she trembled, all her muscles relaxed, and she began to sob.

At this moment an ominous sound reached the ear of the absorbed and distressed lovers. It was not the falling of the drops from the roof of the vault; it was not the flitting of a stray bat, nor the rustle of any creature of the darkness, companion of their hiding place. It was the stealthy groping of a human hand. The slide which closed the mouth of the passage stirred from the outside.

"Hide thee, hide thee, Zahara!" commanded Lazarus in the hissing whisper of agony. "Fly thou down to the corridor where 'tis darkest to the eye. When the light enters keep thou me in sight, but stay thyself beyond it. Farewell, and God keep thee!"

A little to his surprise—for there was no counting upon Zahara—the girl obeyed him; with one swiftly penitent kiss, she darted and fled as he commanded.

Lazarus stood still in his place, and watched the slide open. He was unarmed. He couldonly meet his fate—like a woman, he thought; or a coward. The slide moved cautiously. The taint smell fell in; the night air rushed; the leaves of the grape vine rustled crisply. A figure, like the figure of a gentleman, knelt between the vine and the passage, peering in. Behind him appeared a form resembling that of the young Levite who was called away so opportunely in the temple. Lazarus made no motion. The figures retreated; voices consulted in whispers; feet crushed the vine; a torch flared, and the High Priest, tall and awful, loomed against the light. Lazarus had not abandoned his position near the entrance. He had made up his mind to face alone whatever happened. Annas and Lazarus looked each other silently in the eye. Both men were deadly pale—one from rage, and one from mortal peril. Both were perfectly self possessed.

The high Priest spoke first.

"I envy your pardon, sir builder; but may I be so bold as to inquire your errand in a space sacred to the Temple of Jehovah and the service of His ministers? It must needs be an important one that finds an honorable man such as yourself sneaking upon privacy which a son of the desert would respect."

"My errand is without dishonor," answered Lazarus composedly, "it is needless for me to explain it. My word would scarcely have value for you under the circumstances."

"Possibly not," returned Annas with a sneer, "but is this all you have to say for yourself?"

"I pray," urged Lazarus with a change in his tone, which suddenly broke into an agonized appeal, "I pray for the most sacred of reasons, which would be urgently appreciated by yourself, did you comprehend them—I pray you to allow me to depart peace unto all I reach the Temple exits. I give you my word that I will return again unto you and meet your demands, if you will allow me to do so without the scandal of interference."

"The honor of a skulking man is a poor guaranty," replied the High Priest frigidly; "you will not experience surprise if I decline your request."

"By your power," answered Lazarus, bowing dreamily. He listened with held breath, fearing betrayal of her presence on the part of Zahara. But gave no sign. The black throat of the corridor yawned silently beyond the line of lessening light where the glare of the torch died. "I am in your power," repeated Lazarus.

"Which I propose to exercise," said the High Priest coldly. "Guards! Advance! Whatever be your business, my ex-builder, it is evident it does not concern the pansies. It shall receive, I think you," continued Annas, suddenly casting off the disguise of icy self-command which he had chosen to assume, "I think you, Lazarus, that—I know not the true nature of your abominable business! Think you that I have been a gullible, easy old man, blind to the honor of my household and negligent of the virtue of my daughter? Think you that I have penetrated your scandalous design? That I had not the intelligence to discover that the sacred, secret avenues of the Temple were converted into the scene of a low love affair? Think you that I do not recognize in you, you dog of a Pharisee, the seducer of the daughter of the High Priest of Zion?"

"Now, by the great name of Jehovah, revered by Sadducee, Pharisee, priest and layman!" cried Lazarus passionately, "and by the honor of a lady, the noblest, the purest, the whitest, the most sacred in the land of our people, I swear that the character of this lady shall be protected. I call you to witness, ye guards of the High Priest, that I challenge to mortal combat, though I am a man unarmed, him who has uttered these base words against the fair name of Zahara!"——

With this, maddened by very helplessness and blind with rage, Lazarus sprang, as young blood will, desperately and hopelessly upon his tormentor. A cold laugh replied to his futile and foolish movement. There was a low command, a swift movement, a grating sound, and Lazarus was dashed against the side which closed violently in his face. A few dull strokes followed by resounding blows, and Lazarus realized, to his horror, that the exit from the corridor was forcibly shut and that he and Zahara were barred in.

Lazarus gave a mighty push against the inert stone. He tugged with ferocious tenacity at the brazen ring. He listened with ear against the clammy slab. Footsteps deadened to his hearing. A low, jeering laugh echoed in the distance and Lazarus was left alone. No, not alone!

"Zahara!" he cried in anguish, "Zahara!" There was no reply.

"God of my fathers! Where art thou, O my love!" He groped with hands and feet along the black shaft. In its steep descent he stumbled. His fingers touched the hem of a dress. With delicate reverence his hand sought her face.

"Zahara, my love! I am here. I am thy Lazarus. Thou art not dead. Would that thou hadst never seen my face! Then would thou be safe in thy father's house." Never before had Lazarus reproached himself for the love he had inspired in this girl. Zahara still stood. Her two hands supported her. Their palms were turned backward each upon the damp, uneven stones. Lazarus took one and kissed it and warmed it on his breast. Then the girl sighed deeply, and muttered something in a drowsy tone; it was not easy to tell what; she looked at him stupidly; he thought she spoke of a supper with Herod, and called Rebecca to dress her.

"Jehovah guide me!" groaned Lazarus. "Her reason hath fled from her!" He dared not touch the lips of the half delirious girl. Zahara had a brave nature. But no woman delicately reared in gold and purple could bear such a situation as this unmoved. The mental darkness, the deadly dampness, the peril to life and lover, the terrible words of her father had mounted to her brain like a deadly drug. But Lazarus knew too well that he had no time to lose in tenderness of anxiety. His only hope now lay in forcing an exit through the Temple—binding or bribing the priests—and conjuring Zahara somehow to safety in the outer world. Without delaying to restore the girl, he snatched her and dragged her through the shaft in the direction of the Temple, making such speed with his precious burden as he miserably could.

In the necessary roughness of the mad and desperate rush Zahara's wits began to clarify. The descent had now become perilous. She spoke confusedly.

"Where are we, Lazarus? This is not the tomb?"

"No, sweetheart, follow me. There, take my hand. 'Tis slippery. Take care. We rush to the Temple. Perchance at the horns of the altar none dare molest us."

"But I hear the rushing of waters. Is it the river of death?"

"Thou hearest naught," said Lazarus. "This horror ringeth in thy ears." The descent became steeper. The limestone steps grew more slippery. At any time it was exhausting to Lazarus to run the passage. He had often fallen heavily. His hands and knees bore many a scar. Just where that hidden way was about to descend under the Valley of the Cheesemongers (for thus deeply was the passage excavated in the limestone valley in order to mount to the Temple on the other side), Zahara stopped, clutched Lazarus, and said:

"Hearest thou not the rushing now? We are coming upon the waters."

TO BE CONTINUED.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Latest Works That Have Reached The Blade's Book Table.

Worthington Co., New York, send us "A Study of Ben Jonson," by the poet Swinburne—a most attractive volume; and "Afloat in the Forest," by Capt. Mayne Reid.

Macmillan & Co., New York, have issued "Peterborough," the latest number of their excellent "English Men of Action" series.

Harper & Brothers, New York, have issued a translation of "The Crime of Sylvester Bonnard," a French story by Anatole France.

J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, send us "Stanley's Emin Pasha Expedition," by A. J. Wauters.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, send "Six to One," a paper-covered novel, by Edward Bellamy.

From Funk & Wagnalls, New York, we have "A Saratoga Romance," by Caroline Washburn Rockwood.

John W. Lovell Icompany, 150 North street, New York, send us the following paper-covered novels: "Magic White and Black;" "My Sister's Husband; and "The Tree of Knowledge," by G. M. Robins.

Frank Lovell & Co., New York, send "Children of To-morrow," a romance, by William Sharp; "Plain Tales From the Hills," by Rudyard Kipling; and "A Very Strange Family," by F. W. Robinson.

G. W. Dillingham, New York, sends us "And Satan Laughed," a novel, by Sybil Johnston; "The Fallen Pillar Saint and Other Poems," by Susie M. Best; and "Speaking of Elien," a story, by Albert Ross.

D. Appleton & Co. have issued, in paper covers, a selection from Robert Browning's "Principal Shorter Poems;" and "Frozen Hearts," a sensational story, by G. Webb Appleton.

"Glimpses of Fifty Years," being the autobiography of Miss Frances E. Willard, the temperance agitator, is published by the Woman's Temperance Publication association, Chicago.

—We are often deceived in the age of people having beautiful and luxuriant hair, not knowing that they use Hall's Hair Renewer to keep gray hairs away.

A MEMORY.

BY A. PRESTON CRANDELL.

The long, sad day is past and gone,
And the stars are glancing out,
One by one, like holy beacons,
In the solemn, silent night.

'Mid the gentle calm of evening,
Thoughts of other days will come
Thronging o'er my weary soul so sadly,
As I sit and muse alone.

I am thinking of an evening,
Just one year to-night agone,
When the sky was bright above us,
And the stars in radiance shone.

'Twas a gay, a bright beginning,
Of our dream of love and joy,
And the hours, so swiftly passing,
Were pure gold without alloy.

One short year! It seems like ages—
So much it holds of joy and pain,
Oh! the joy! the happy moments!
They will never come again.

As I sit here 'until the shadows,
Of the fire-light's fitful glow,
I am living o'er in memory,
All my grief and bitter woe.

And, as I dream, I vainly wonder,
If you have forgotten all—
If those twilight hours of gladness
Are with you beyond recall.

If you ever now remember
One who loved you, next to God,
One, who ever will forget you,
Till her heart lies 'neath the sod.

Do you ever, in the silence,
Think one kindly thought of me;
Do the angels bear upon the vapor,
"There is one who prays for thee."

Does the silent cry of anguish,
From a broken heart ne'er come,
To tell you that, at midnight,
There is one who weeps alone.

Now, farewell, the day is dying,
And for you I breathe a prayer,
And hope when life is ended,
You will meet me "over there."

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.
LUCAS COUNTY,

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

{SEAL} A. W. GLEASON,
Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75 cents.

Why Not?

Lawrence American.

Mumby—Say, when two trains collide, they call it a telescope, don't they?

Dumley—Yes; why?

Mumby—Nothing, only I was wondering why they didn't call it a collideoscope.

A BAD SPELL.

A merchant's clerk wrote a check for forty dollars, and spelled the numerical adjective "f-o-u-r-t-y." His employer directed his attention to the error, with the remark, "You seem to have had a bad *spell* this morning." To which the clerk replied, "Sure enough; I've left out the "g-h." Let us hope the clerk will still further amend his orthography, meanwhile, if anybody is suffering from a "bad spell" of headache, superinduced by constipation, over-eating or other indiscretion, let that person ask his druggist for Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets. They are entirely vegetable in composition, and are prompt and effective in action. They are *specific* in all derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels. They are strongly cathartic or mildly laxative according to size of dose. Unequaled as a Liver Pill. Smallest, cheapest, easiest to take. One tiny, Sugar-coated Pellet a dose.

WHAT AILS YOU?

Do you feel dull, languid, low-spirited, lifeless, and indescribably miserable, both physically and mentally; experience a sense of fullness or bloating after eating, or of "goneness," or emptiness of stomach in the morning, tongue coated, bitter or bad taste in mouth, irregular appetite, dizziness, frequent headaches, blurred eyesight, "floating specks" before the eyes, nervous prostration or sudden attacks of irritability of temper, hot flushes, alternating with chilly sensations, sharp, biting, transient pains here and there, cold feet, drowsiness after meals, wakefulness, or disturbed and unrefreshing sleep, constant, indescribable feeling of dread, or of impending calamity?

If you have all, or any considerable number of these symptoms, you are suffering from that most common of American maladies—Bilious Dyspepsia, or Torpid Liver, associated with Dyspepsia, or Indigestion. The more complicated your disease has become, the greater the number and diversity of symptoms. No matter what stage it has reached, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will subdue it, if taken according to directions for a reasonable length of time. One or two of Dr. Pierce's Pellets taken daily with the "Discovery" will add to its efficacy in case the liver is very torpid and the bowels constipated.

"Golden Medical Discovery" is the only medicine of its class *guaranteed* to do all it is represented to accomplish, or money paid for it will be refunded. WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Proprietors, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

A DARK HORSE.

High Speed Unexpectedly Developed in Fifth Avenue.

A dilapidated boy on the seat of a creaking cart was undertaking the task of urging a wierd and awful horse up Fifth avenue one morning this week, when he was stopped by a policeman, and at once became the center of a curious crowd.

"Get down off that cart," said the policeman.

"Why fur?" asked the boy, permitting the horse to perform its bent of coming to a complete standstill.

"Your plug is lame," said the policeman.

"Me plug's me own, an he's just after havin' his breakfast," responded the boy.

"Yes, on tomato cans," sarcastically exclaimed the policeman. "Get down off your cart."

The boy descended to the pavement.

"Unharness that horse and take him home or I'll make a complaint against you."

The boy went quietly about his work of unharnessing the wretched beast. For a few moments nothing was said. All eyes were fixed on the boy as he untied the ropes that held the angular and dejected animal to the shafts of the wagon. The horse did not evince any surprise whatever at the unexpected experience that he was to the hero of, but merely hung his head and caught a few winks of sleep, while the cold breeze stirred his grizzled mane and almost performed Æolian melody among his ribs. After awhile he was free of the wagon, and the boy, after tying up the fugitive ends of rope and leather that dangled from his harness, gathered the reins into his hands and cast a look toward the implacable policeman.

"Wan?" he exclaimed, interrogatively.

The policeman nodded back into his inquiring eyes and said:

"Now, you get home."

The boy turned the horse's head in a downtown direction. The beast straightened up strangely, and gazed with brightening eye down the hazy vista of the avenue. Then he waved his tail aloft and whinnied.

"Gep!" cried the boy.

That was sufficient. The crowd was reminded of the scamper that ensues when the flag falls at race a track. It was a lame horse, that one, but he evidently had a grain of thoroughbred blood in him, for, with his hind quarters hitching like a kangaroo, he sped over the pavements as though a purse of $1,000 was laid on his getting home at a certain time. The boy clung to the reins, and just before getting out of hearing he turned and shouted back at the amazed policeman:

"Now, ain't you a d—d fool?"

And as the flying steed vanished with the boy in the distance the policeman acknowledged to the crowd that he was.—[N. Y. Sun.

Tartar

Are barnacles on the teeth; at first creamy, then crusty, then removable only by the dentist. It loosens the teeth, and makes the gums tender. Don't permit it to gather; use SOZODONT, and keep the mouth clean and the teeth healthy.

A CURE FOR CATARTH.

The Troublesome Ailment Often an Imaginary Thing Only.

A reader wishes to know how to cure catarrh. Is he very sure he has catarrh? Nine people out of ten who believed they have catarrh havn't got it all. They hack and cough around, and think it must be catarrh. Before a man lays his trouble to catarrh, he would better be sure he is breathing right. Does he breathe through his mouth at night? Yes. Then there is the simple cause of all the things he calls symptoms of catarrh, such as dryness of the lips and mouth, a bad taste, a coated tongue and a feeling of languor on rising.

Omit breathing through the mouth, breathe through the nose and sleep will be sweeter, the nostrils will become hardened, and the catarrhal symptoms will pass away. Don't believe that the fault is in the climate and not in you. Remember you are sure to talk with a deaf man that you have catarrh, just see whether you are breathing exactly right. Remember that by breathing through the mouth you are reversing nature's laws just as if you took food through the nose.

Look Here, Friend, Are You Sick?

Do you suffer from Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Liver Complaint, Nervousness, Lost Appetite, Biliousness, Exhaustion or Tired Feeling, Pains in Chest or Lungs, Dry Cough, Nightsweats, or any form of Consumption? If so, send to Prof. Hart, 88 Warren St., New York, who will send you free, by mail, a bottle of *Floriphetron*, which is a sure cure. Send to-day.

A Rare Avis.

Mother—Well, John, how do you like married life?

Son—Very well indeed

Mother—Is your wife amiable?

Son—Extremely so.

Mother—And you try to be so yourself?

Son—I am so.

Mother—Does she cook as well as your mother?

Son—Mother I cannot tell a lie. She does.—[Boston Courier.

Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor: Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption, if they will send me their Express and P. O. address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

The Camp-Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and no contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with a full set.]

THE MEETING OF THE VETERANS,

BY "CARLETON."

OM.—Thank God that we
have met again old
comrade, you and
me,
Beneath that grand old
banner, John, the
emblem of the free.
But none are here to
greet us now, and few
are left we know,
Of all who answered to
their names, just
twenty years ago.

JOHN.—Aye, comrade, we have older grown; our boys are men to-day,
Of whom both you and I are proud, for Vet'rans' Sons are they;
But oh, the number mustered out we never more will know,
Whose elbows touched upon that march, just twenty years ago.

TOM.—Yes, on that field of Gettysburg, our lines grew thin and light,
When scattered by the rebel fire, our men fell left and right;
And we were left almost alone to check the charging foe,
And help our comrades in distress, just twenty years ago.

JOHN.—Oh, comrade Tom, have you forgot that soldier on our right
Who lost his leg by cannon shot, in Hancock's fearful fight?
I breed him up against a tree, his face was toward the foe,
Where, firing his last shot he died, just twenty years ago.

TOM.—Oh, yes. And when we dug his grave upon a knoll hard by,
And laid him gently down to rest, a tear filled every eye;
And vengeful vows were uttered there; aye, many a one, I know,
Above the tomb of that comrade, just twenty years ago.

JOHN.—'Twas then our gallant captain fell; the fife write of us all.
He left at home a sweet young wife, and went at duty's call.
We tried to take him to the rear—he would not let us go,
But bravely bled his life out there, just twenty years ago.

TOM.—And, John, I know you've not forgot when we were pris'ners made,
And hurried off away down South to Andersonville decade,
And shut up in that prison pen, oft times my tears will flow,
While thinking what we suffered there, just twenty years ago.

JOHN.—Oh, well, old comrade, all is past; that cruel war is o'er.
No more we heed the bugle blast, nor hear the cannon's roar;
But to another camp fire bright, in God's own time we'll go,
Not such a camp as we were in, just twenty years ago.

BOTH.—So now, dear comrades, one and all, a hearty grip once more,
We two old chums again have met, and fought our battles o'er.
It stirs our blood like trumpet tones in front of rebel foe,
And makes us feel as we felt then, just twenty years ago.

Though well we know 'tis all in vain; no longer young are we;
But 'round the camp fire we will meet, beneath our banner free;
And tell of conflicts once we waged against our Southern foe,
On Gettysburg's fatal field, just twenty years ago.

And now, good friends, we break our camp, until some future day.
We'll meet again and sing our songs of battle field and fray;
And when our camp fires gleam again, we almost think we know,
You'll come to hear how soldiers fared, just twenty years ago.

The above lines were suggested by the meeting of two old heroes of Gettysburg, at a campfire on the twentieth anniversary of that great battle. They are sung at G. A. R. camp-fires as a dust, but have never before been published. They are hereby dedicated to the Veterans.—CARLETON.

A STRANGE STAMPEDE

In the Dark, but in One Sense it was Systematic.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—In the fall of 1862 the 31st Reg. was sent out from Gallatin, Tenn., to guard a ford on the Cumberland river, about a mile distant from the town. One cloudy night, after we had been there several days, a negro came rushing into camp with the news that a whole "million ob de rebels" were crossing an upper ford, half a mile above us, with a view of getting in our rear. It was about 11 o'clock p. m., and the darkness which prevailed could almost be felt. D was ordered out on the double-quick, and about that time the rain came pouring down. Away we went, stumbling through the cedars, confused now and then with blinding flashes of lightning, which revealed for an instant our path, then left us in darkness ten-fold more bewildering. After we had proceeded some distance, Capt. Wm. H. Free, who was inclined to be profane, halted us and ordered us to deploy as skirmishers. It being night, it was necessary to have both a countersign and a rallying cry. Our countersign was, "Yorktown," and the rallying cry was, "Give 'em h—l!" The captain ordered us, in case we encountered the enemy, to fire at once, and also to immediately sound the rallying cry, so that we might distinguish our own comrades. Cautiously we started forward through the scrub cedars, and occasionally we could catch a glimpse of our deployed comrades on the right, and also in our near front, by the lightning's lurid glare.

We had one good-natured comrade up at the head of our company, a six-footer, and a man who generally construed matters in his own way. We had not gone many rods through the brush ere a flash of lightning showed up a large white object moving in front of and toward our big comrade, "John" did not stand on ceremony, but put his Enfield to his shoulder and banged away; then, breaking for the rear, he took up the rallying cry, "Give 'em h—ll! Give 'em h—ll!" As a natural result the comrade on his left, thinking from the noise that the whole confederacy had broken loose, also fired his gun, took up the rallying cry, and so it was all down the line, each man shooting his piece and following with the cry, rushing, of course, to the rear. In about five minutes we were on a general stampede for camp, when we were brought up to a halt by the loud curses of Capt. Bill, who soon faced us about and started us back over the same ground. We arrived at the ford about midnight and after reconnoitering awhile discovered that the darkey had brought in a false alarm. But the funny part came while we were marching back to camp. We ran into Johnnie "John's" "rebel," which proved to be a white cow. As he had made a dead shot, we went into camp with a good supply of Tennessee beef. No doubt some of the boys will remember who Comrade "John" was.—J. F. WHIPPS, Co. D, 31st O. V. V. I., 1st Brig., 3d Div., 14th A. C.

RISKY BUSINESS.

But They Bagged the Johnnies and Never Lost a Man.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—The most successful and daring raid in which I participated, occurred in the spring of 1863. Capt. Newell with two companies (L and K) of the 3d Mich. Cav., procured an old sunken flatboat, and 57 men, all told, entered the old trap and proceeded down the Tennessee river to Clifton. The night was very dark, and the river was bank full with a swift running current. Several of the boys manned the boat, and all had orders not to speak aloud. Previous to starting we were informed of the object of our mission, and for my part I had not the slightest expectation of ever reaching the opposite shore, a few miles below, on account of the unsafe condition of our craft. If we did succeed in landing safely, there was no thought, one chance in fifty of capturing the picket stationed on the bank of the river under the hill. On the picket hung our destiny. We landed safely, however, within a few rods of the picket, and rapidly and quickly disembarked. Accompanying us was a secret scout, who, the day before, had been in the town and learned that the soldiers intended to have a dance there that night, which would likely be kept up until 3 o'clock a. m. We expected to take them by surprise in the early morn, if successful in capturing the picket without raising an alarm. The scout with a couple of men moved cautiously down the river bank and pounced upon the picket, capturing him without firing a gun. Then we marched up the steep river bank and into a cornfield adjoining the town, where every man laid down flat until time for action. I had just fallen into a doze when the whispered order was passed along the line to get up. We were facing the east, and I remember we could notice the first appearance of approaching day. Capt. Newell divided the men into three detachments, and then the scout pointed out the three buildings that were filled with Johnnies. Each detachment was ordered to strike the enemy simultaneously. Comrade George W. McCormick and myself were in the advance of our squad. When we reached the building I struck the door with my foot, which threw it open and we all rushed in just as the Johnnies were hurrying out of an adjoining room in a desperate effort to reach their carbines, which hung on the opposite wall to our left; but we had the "drop" on them and they surrendered. The other detachments were not so successful as we were and some shooting occurred, during which Capt. Newell and the rebel commander were wounded. We captured eight officers and over 60 enlisted men; also their horses and equipments. At the time a large confederate force lay within three miles of the place. We came near being fired upon by our gunboats, which lay a short distance below us. We quickly recrossed the river just as the rebel reserve appeared on the opposite bank. J. B. STOUFFER, Ord. Sergt. Co. L, 3d Mich. V. V. C.

BOB GOT THE BACON,

But He Was Released From a Tight Place by the Boys.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—In 1863 my regiment was guarding the railroad a few miles north of Gallatin, Tenn., and a detail from each company was made for the purpose of scouting over the adjacent country and "exhausting the resources." The detail was made with due reference to their exhausting proclivities. This was the squad that took the old lady's chickens, and when she came with her complaint to Gen. E. A. Payne, he made the remark which has become historic: "Sorry for you, madame, but this rebellion has got to be squelched if it takes every chicken in Tennessee."

On one occasion, when the squad had camped at some distance from the regiment, a few of them—as was their custom—went on a search for a smoke-house and easily found one that seemed to be about what they wanted. It was arranged that one should remain outside and attend to getting the meat out and ready for transportation, while the others went into the house and entertained the "old folks." So a member of Co. B, whom we will call Bob, was left to abstract the meat. And after a good sociable talk indoors, until they thought Bob had performed his part, the boys came out; but instead of finding a good pile of bacon, they found about half the length of Bob, outside the smokehouse, while the other half—the half that was using the cuss words—was inside. He had removed a portion of the logs underpinning, but in the dark had not removed quite enough to let him through, and he was wedged in so tight that he could not back out. The boys managed to get Bob out of his predicament, and also to "save their bacon," but the story was told several hundred times, much to the amusement of the entire regiment.—B. SPRINGER, Neola, Kans.

ANOTHER SCHEME

Some of the Boys Worked to Procure a Supply of Fuddle-Juice.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—While Negley's division was at Nashville, Tenn., a comrade and myself strapped our canteens on under our blouses and started for town in search for something stronger to drink than coffee. It was against orders to sell liquor to the soldiers, but after skirmishing about for some time we entered a grocery and purchased some tobacco, and found out that the proprietor also had intoxicants. He agreed to sell to us provided we would not report him. We filled our canteens with whisky, paid him with Michigan "wild-cat" money, and started for camp, arriving about 2 p. m., a couple of jolly boys. Being freehearted it was not long before some of our friends were about as happy as we. Our supply of liquor was soon exhausted and we began figuring on how to get another stock. It was decided that a keg full would make us a good square drink all around, and a sergeant and four privates were detailed to proceed to the grocery and demand the liquor. The grocery-keeper denied having any, of course. The sergeant then informed him that some of our men had been intoxicated that day on liquor procured at his establishment, and that if he did not hand out a keg of liquor he would search the shanty. The sergeant then ordered us to search the building and we soon found the keg of liquor. Then one of us was told to roll it out and knock in the head, while others arrested the groceryman. The keg was taken out, but instead of demolishing it we slipped it into a coffee sack and with it started for camp. The proprietor of the place promised he would not sell any more liquor to the boys and we released him. Our lieutenant was a religious man and very strict in regard to drinking, so to hide our prize we dug a hole in the ground inside one of those large Sibley tents and buried the keg, covering it over with a cracker box, on which we piled our blankets. When we wanted a "bracer" some of the boys would stand guard at the tent door while others filled a canteen from the keg. Some of the boys felt good as long as the liquor lasted, and the lieutenant was anxious to ascertain where the whisky came from; but I guess he never found out.—C. W. S., Co. D., 11th Mich. V. I., Angola, Ind.

CELEBRATING JULY FOURTH

At Kenesaw Mountain, in 1864—Made It Unpleasant for the Foe.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—After the surrender of Vicksburg, the 11th Iowa did garrison duty at that place until the spring of 1864, when they re-enlisted in the veteran service, rejoining the army in the field at Big Shanty, after a furlough. From there we went to Kenesaw, where we worked and skirmished day and night, until July 2. After dark we were ordered into line of battle, a flank movement being in progress. Many of the boys, doubtless, remember that night's march. We were so tired and sleepy that we would fall down wherever a halt was made. But hardly were we asleep when the order "fall in!" would be heard. Then we would get up, more dead than alive, and march on further. Thus we continued until late in the afternoon of July 3, when we came to the line of battle. As we came up Col. Hall said to an officer in command near the road: "What are you doing here?" "Skirmishing with the rebs." "Why don't you charge on them?" "Well," said our colonel, "if you will allow us, we will charge them and take the cannon they have planted over there." "You can go in," said the officer. So we formed in line and went for the Johnnies on the double-quick. When the rebs saw us coming they limbered up and got out of their ridge as fast as they could. We bivouacked on the ground, and prepared to celebrate the Fourth next day. On that day Col. Hall commanded the brigade, which was composed of the 11th, 15th, 15th and 16th Iowa regiments. The 11th and 13th were held in reserve, and the 15th and 16th advanced and engaged in a brisk skirmish with the enemy, which lasted until noon. The rebs had thrown up rifle-pits, and had three cannon. They did not fire a shot until we were within 100 yards of their works. Then we received the fire of their three cannon, charged with case-shot. Then we got down and hugged the ground, and commenced to pick off their gunners. We soon silenced their cannon, and had we rushed forward, though we were only a skirmish line, and our support was two miles in the rear, we could have taken their cannon. Their men seemed panic-stricken, and we could hear their officers swear at the men to stand. They soon rallied but the time had come for the 11th and 13th to take the lead. We marched out to where the 15th and 16th were stationed on a hill, the rebs in the rifle-pits, protected by piles of rails. We did not stop to reel with them at long range, but made for them on the double-quick. They fired one volley and fled. We followed the rebels through timber and brush, until we came to where they had made a stand. The rebel officers got their men up to the works, but they did not show their heads. They fired a parting volley, which hurt no one, and then retreated. And that's how we celebrated (?) the Glorious Fourth of July.—D. BROOKHART, Co. H, 11th Iowa I. V., Nelson, Neb.

SOLDIERS' BOYS AND GIRLS.

J. A. Croft, Corvallis, Ore., whose father, A. Croft, was a member of Co. D, O. V. I., and fought "mit Seigel."

Helen Coe, Carthage, Mo., writes that her father belonged to Co. B, 1st Iowa Cav., and would like to hear from comrades of his company in the Camp Fire.

Serena Morgan lives in Washington, near the Pacific coast. Her father served in the 13th Kas. V. I., and her grandfather was in the war of 1812, under Gen. Harrison.

L. E. Davis, New Vienna, O., is a member of O'Neall Camp No. 364, S. of V., and his father was a member of Co. C, 149th O. V. I., and was wounded at Monocacy.

Elmer E. Laws, Liverpool, Ills., writes that his father, W. H. Laws, was sergeant of the 103d Ills. Reg.

SHORT LETTERS.

PEACHTREE CREEK.—Can any comrade who was there, tell to a certainty where the Peachtree Creek fight, July 20, 1864, opened? That is, what corps and division received the first attack. I claim it was the 3d Div. of the 20th Corps, and think I was in position to know.—E. S., 129th Ill., 1st Brig., 3d Div., 20th A. C.

NEVER HEARD OF THOMPSON'S COLT.—While making preparation to besiege Fort Morgan, a detail was made from our company to float a barge loaded with shells down to the mortar batteries. As we must needs keep very quiet, we were obliged to wade in water up to our necks and push the barge ahead of us. While thus engaged a heavy rain came, and after we delivered the barge to the battery and started for camp one of the boys remarked that he wouldn't work "in the rain" again for any government!—WM. LITTLER, Co. E, 94th Ills. V. I., Frazeysburg, O.

THANKS THE COMRADES.—I would like to thank the comrades that helped me out of my tight place. I am the unfortunate comrade who lost my house by fire last fall. Many thanks to all comrades and comrades' widows that so generously responded to Comrade Knight's call. I have received $36 in all, and it aided me greatly to smooth over the rough places in a long and severe winter. May God bless and prosper them, is the wish of their comrade.—W. W. PAY, Co. C, 5th Iowa Cav., Laketon, S. Dak.

SURROUNDED THEM.—The next day after the fight at Granny White Pike we drove the enemy from their breastworks of logs, and though they gave us a hard fight we held our position. Finally they became disheartened, threw down their arms, and surrendered. Just then Johnny Daly, a little Irishman of our company, was seen escorting seven rebels to our side. On being asked how he captured the rebels he shouted, swinging his carbine in the air: "Oi surrounded them all by meself, be Jabbers!"—PETER HOFFMAN, Co. I, 7th Ills. Cav., Decatur, Ills.

SPRING HILL.—Will say to J. S. Arnold that the 23d A. C. held the rebs in check at Columbia while the 4th A. C. drove the Johnnies off the pike at Spring Hill. The 23d Corps, wagon train and artillery marched past the 4th Corps at Spring Hill in the night, and went on to Franklin. The 23d Brig. 1st Divis. 4th Corps covered the retreat from Spring Hill, filed past the 23d Corps at 10 o'clock a. m., and took their position across the creek. The Johnnies planted 32 stands of colors on our works, which we carried into Nashville next day.—W. A. PHILLIPS, Co. A, 63d Ind. V. I., Remington, Ind.

HE GOT HER MILK.—One day while two comrades of the 14th corps were scouting around they came across a seceah cow and concluded to have some milk. Orders had been issued by the general (Morgan) that none of the brigade boys should milk the cows about there, and a very sharp-eyed aide (Old Yellow) was always on the watch for transgressors. While one of the comrades milked the other kept a lookout for anyone coming. Soon Old Yellow was seen approaching. The sentinel notified the milkman, who immediately dropped his canteen and began sucking the cow. The aide, riding up, yelled out: "Here, what are you doing? Don't you know the order against milking?" "Oh, yes; I know that, but I ain't milking—I'm sucking, and there's no orders against sucking!" Old Yellow was nonplused and rode on without saying another word.—J. D. B., 78th Ills. V. I., Beece, Kans.

James Taylor, Throckmorton, Texas, who was a private in Co. D, 4th Tenn. Cav., now totally blind, would like to hear from comrades of his company.

L. Hillibiddle would like to know the street and No. where the hospitals in New Orleans was situated, to which the wounded was sent after the battle of Yellow Bayou.

J. W. O., Box 84, Hamer, Neb., wishes to correspond with old comrades of Co. G, 31st U. S. Inft., stationed at Fort Bedford, D. T., in 1868.

The comrades have made a "grand charge" with "fuel" for the Camp Fire. There are nearly 50 contributions awaiting recognition—and still they come!

Information Wanted.

☞ Requests of this sort will be inserted in this department at the rate of 50 cents for three lines, one insertion. It is impossible to insert them free.

Wanted—Address of members Pioneer Corps, 3d Div., 15th A. C., that knew S. W. Griffith, Co. C, 8th Wis. Vols.—S. W. GRIFFITH, Union City, Pa.

—For strengthening and clearing the voice, use "Brown's Bronchial Troches."—"I have commended them to friends who were public speakers, and they have proved extremely serviceable."—*Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.*

AN OLD STORY RETOLD.

How the Shoemaker's Daughter Found Her Stockings.

In the numerous descriptions given almost daily of the gorgeous toilets worn by the ladies of the White House, and of other houses, no mention of hosiery finds place, and yet what important, not to say indispensable, articles of attire stockings are, and how much charm dainty silk hose and fancy slippers add to a pretty foot and ankle.

Some years ago only white stockings were worn, but a ramble through the stores of a bright day, or a position taken by a muddy street crossing of a rainy day will convince an observing person that white stockings are in unnecessary denudate, and colored ones have entirely supersided them.

The latest stores in town frequently decorate the show windows to an artistic display of these useful articles whose varied hues rival Jo

Question Bureau.

Rules.—1.—Do not send more than three queries at one time. All questions to receive attention, must be on separate sheets from business letters or articles for other departments, written on one side of the paper only, and the true name and address *must* be given. If requested, the name and address will not be published.

2.—Do not ask us where you can *sell* anything, or where you can *buy* anything. Such requests are advertisements, and must be paid for.

3.—No addresses will be given, either of business firms or of persons, in reply to requests. To do so would be to give them free advertising.

4.—Do not ask whether any business, company or individual is reliable. We will not reply.

5.—This department is intended to answer only such queries as are of *general* interest to the masses of the BLADE'S readers; hence we will not waste space in answering questions that are not.

6.—We can not give space to mathematical problems, puzzles, etc., nor will we decide bets.

7.—No replies by mail, under *any* circumstances.

PENSION QUESTIONS.

Queries From Veterans Who Belong to the Blade Army.

A. C. L., Winfall, Ind.: "Can a soldier who owns his right to a homestead in the West to his credit, I mean the time he served in the army, which is taken off the time to be occupied?"

No, indeed, you can not.

H. M. Dexter, Minn: "Will you please to give me what year certain grades of pension (if there are all of that grade) were raised from to the present rate?"

The raise was made by a ruling of the Pension commissioner, April 3, 1884.

T. H., Morley, Mich.: 1.—Is it lawful for a married man to enlist in the regular army? 2.—If such a man leaves his family and enlists in the army, can his wages, or part of the same, be retained or drawn for the support of his children, providing he leave no support for them?

1.—Yes. 2.—No.

R. A., Lone Tree, Mo.: Is there any way to meet the difficulty if the surgeon in your regiment in the service knew all about your disease and treated you, and will send to for deposition, sent a general one, scarcely touching the case, and when interrogated refused to answer?

No. You cannot compel him to testify.

H. L. M.: "If a service pension bill should pass, would it cover pensions like that to the widow of Gen. Grant?"

No!

W. T., Greensburg, Ind.: "Did Senator Sherman or Senator Edmunds, at any time within the last six years, make a public speech against the removal of the limitation to the arrears of pension?"

No, certainly not!

C. O. J., Selma, Cal.: "I notice in a newspaper that the committee on Invalid Pensions had instructed their chairman to report favorably on the arrears pension bill as to claims on account of the passage of the bill. Now does that mean that parties who were allowed pensions since the limitation run out would receive arrears, or would a new claim have to be on file at the date of the passage of the bill, or be lost if filed thereafter?"

No such report has been made.

D. L. P., Lutesville, Mo.: 1.—The provision of the pension law giving $30 a month to a soldier so disabled "as to required the aid of another person," means that he has to have some one to dress him, etc.—Would the affidavit of a man's wife or grown-up son be accepted by the pension office as valid evidence showing the husband or father did actually require the care and aid of another person?"

Yes, if supported by the evidence of another person not a member of the family.

C. M. D., Lima, O.: Section 4722, revised statutes, extend the benefits of the law to "the officers and privates of the Missouri State militia, and the provisional Missouri militia, disbanded by reason of the muster out of the forces connected in the line of duty while such militia was co-operating with United States forces," and to "widows and children of such persons dying of injuries received or disease contracted in that service." Pensions, however, cannot commence prior to March 8, 1873.

The "X. Y. Z Mission."

W. S A., North English, Iowa: The phrase, "X. Y. Z. Mission," arose as follows:

"During the Revolution the United States secured the valuable aid of France by treaties in 1778. In 1793 monarchy was overthrown in France, and that nation became involved in war with England and other European nations. She desired the United States as an ally, and Genet was sent to accomplish her purpose. His mission failed, Washington persisted firmly in preserving the neutrality, and Jay's treaty was concluded with England. The course of our government angered France. In 1797 the directory, which then governed that country, gave permission to the French navy to assail our vessels. Following this policy of war, in spite of French insults to our minister and the threat to our commerce, President Adams called an extra session of Congress in May, 1797, and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, John Marshall and Elbridge Gerry were sent to France to arrange matters. In the spring of the next year the President submitted to Congress dispatches that had been received from these commissioners. They had been kept waiting by Talleyrand, the minister of foreign affairs, and had been approached by three unofficial persons with what was in effect a demand for a bribe and a loan to the directory before any arrangement could be concluded with the United States. In the dispatches the names of these three persons were indicated merely by the letters X., Y. and Z., and hence the whole affair came to be termed the X. Y. Z. Mission. To these demands our representatives returned a decided reply. It is said that Talleyrand was making use of the phrase, "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute." The answer as recorded, however, was, "No, no, no; not a sixpence." About the time when these dispatches were submitted to Congress, Pinckney and Marshall were ordered to leave France, and Gerry was after word recalled by our government. A warlike feeling instantly sprung up in the United States. The Federalists, with Adams as leader, desired to depose Jefferson from power, a policy of keeping this country from entangling foreign alliances, and desired to resent French insults. The Democrats (then called Republicans) had always favored an alliance with France and had opposed the navy bill. Sympathy for the United States. Now, it was ver, the popular pressure could not be withstood. Bills were passed for increasing the navy and separating it from the War Department (April 30, 1798). Provision was made for a national army, and the imposition of a direct tax. The President was authorized to increase the army in case of a foreign war within three years, and soon Washington was called to be commander-in-chief of the army, and Hamilton, not colonel was selected as the active commander. On July 9, 1798, Congress declared the treaties with France no longer binding, and authorized our war vessels and privateers to capture armed French vessels. A few naval engagements occurred, but no event of great importance. The effect of our warlike feeling and preparations on France was excellent. American prisoners were released and the embargo was raised, and declared was raised on American ships. Talleyrand now hinted to our Minister to Holland, William Vans Murray, that he was willing to receive another American Minister. Adams accordingly appointed Murray in December, 1799, and soon joined with him Oliver Ellsworth and William R. Davis. The President's action created much stir politically, as he was considered to have become subservient to France and to have changed the entire attitude of himself and the Federal party. It was some months after the appointment that our envoys arrived in Paris. Napoleon was then at the head of the government as First Consul, and was favorably inclined toward the United States. French commissioners were appointed, and on September 30, 1800, a friendly convention was signed. Both countries ratified it, and it was declared in force December 21, 1801. For a while the safety of our commerce was thus secured.

2.—We never heard of "Ayliffe." Do not you mean Wickliffe, the early English reformer?

3.—Daniel Webster was a regular attendant on religious worship, but we don't think he was a member of any church. We know nothing of the religious belief of Noah Webster.

Who is the Blade's Oldest Subscriber?

We give below the replies received to the question, "Who has longest taken THE BLADE, without break?" asked in the Bureau of February 27.

H M Tappan, Winamac, O., writes: "I became a subscriber in December, 1864, and have taken it regularly ever since, so I am on my 26th year."

J. R. Blain, Sedan, Kan., writes: "I have been a reader of THE BLADE almost all the time since Lincoln was killed."

Wm. Vickers, La Crosse, Kan., writes: "I was on my second year when 'Nasby' opened the post-office at 'Confedrit X Roads' with the 'Original Outlook' as postmaster." It would require considerable search to find out when that took place, but it was after the close of the war.—ED. BUREAU.]

E. G., McLean, N. Y., writes: "D. B. King died February 4, 1890, aged 90. He had taken THE BLADE for thirty years."

C. W. D., Summit Grove, Ind., writes: "Josiah Skidmore, of this place, has taken THE BLADE for about thirty-five years."

D. T., Sparta, Ill., writes: "I do not recollect exactly, but think I commenced in the campaign of 1856."

G. H. Paley, Ottawa Lake, Mich., writes: "I first subscribed for THE BLADE in 1856, and have taken it ever since."

Mr. John Flickinger, Delta, O., called at THE BLADE office personally to say that he began his subscription in May, 1856, and has taken it steadily ever since.

We should be glad to know of any other veteran subscribers. So far, the honor of being the oldest subscriber lies among the four persons last named above, with the chances in favor of Mr. Flickinger, who remembers the month in which he began.

Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

J. B. H. asks: 1.—"What is the origin of Good Friday and Easter Sunday? 2.—Why does not Easter come on the same day every year?"

1.—The Savior was crucified on a Friday, and rose from the dead on a Sunday. "Good Friday" is a fast day of the Christian church, in commemoration of the crucifixion. Easter is a festival of the church, in honor of the resurrection. 2.—The dates of all the events of Christ's life—his birth, crucifixion and resurrection especially—are involved in obscurity. Among the early Christians a controversy arose as to when Easter should be celebrated. Part of them adhered to the idea that He died on the very day of the Jewish passover—"God Friday" is a fast day of the Christian church, in the lamb was slain in the temple. The Jewish passover was always celebrated on the 14th day of the "first month"—that is, the lunar month of which the 14th day either falls on or next follows the spring equinox. This would bring Easter on a week-day instead of a Sunday, in most cases. Others of the Christians claimed that Easter ought to always be celebrated on a Sunday, as Christ rose on Sunday. They were a serious cause of bitter hosting for years, which was settled by the council of Nice, A. D. 325, which adopted this rule: that Easter shall be celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon which happens on or next after March 21, the spring equinox; and if that full moon falls on a Sunday, Easter is the next Sunday after. Under this rule, Easter can not come earlier than March 22, nor later than April 25.

H. G., Wheeler, Ark.: 1.—Easter is a festival in honor of the resurrection, but is not held on the identical date of that event, because no one knows certainly on what date it occurred. The article above explains why it is a movable feast.

2.—Iceberg-ice boats are yet in the experimental stage. None has yet been invented that is successful.

Healing by Prayer.

J. M., Bloom Center, O.: The theory of "Christian scientists" and "faith cure" people, that cures of diseases are effected by prayer, etc., is not carried out by experience. No case of mental disease having been cured by their means has ever been shown. Some disorders are mental or nervous in their origin, but the powerful impression made on the mind and nerves by a high degree of religious fervor may cure them, in some cases. Again, there are some diseases that are self-limited; that is, they run a definite course, and then the patient recovers if his strength will not be too much exhausted. Such persons would recover without Christian science. But no case of a mortal disease—such as malignant typhoid fever, consumption, Bright's disease, cancer, etc.—has ever been shown to be cured. Many do not believe in Christian science, however; but their zeal is the zeal of ignorance. The age of miracles is past. We are under the reign of law. Prayer is efficacious in the spiritual and moral sense, but it will not be answered where that answer would be to suspend the operation of nature's laws. The reason so many church papers are silent on the subject is that they dislike to brand it as the error it really is.

Wool Production and Imports.

J. H. A., Eldon, Iowa, writes: "While talking with a Democrat he made the statement that the production of wool has increased more rapidly during the five years preceding the reduction of wool tariff than it did for the five years succeeding the reduction. Please let us know the facts."

The wool duties were reduced in the spring of 1883. We give the production and imports of the United States from 1878 to 1888—the five years previous and the five years following 1883:

Year ending June 30.	Production, lbs.	Imports, lbs.
1878	208,250,000	48,449,079
1879	211,000,000	39,006,155
1880	232,300,000	128,131,747
1881	240,000,000	85,961,236
1882	272,100,000	67,861,744
1883	290,400,000	70,573,478
1884	300,000,000	78,350,651
1885	308,000,000	70,596,170
1886	302,000,000	129,084,958
1887	285,000,000	114,038,030
1888	269,000,000	113,558,753

You will note that it took the farmers till 1883 to convince them that wool was not so profitable as before the reduction. The production then began to go down, and the imports to increase.

The "Sunday Rest" Bill.

E. C., Grass Lake, Mich.: The "Sunday rest" bill, introduced in the House of Representatives by Breckenridge, of Kentucky, is as follows—it applying only to the District of Columbia, as you will see:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be unlawful for any person, or corporation, or employee of any corporation, or employee of the District of Columbia to perform any secular labor, or business, or to cause the same to be performed by any person in their employment on Sunday, except works of necessity or mercy, not including therein any work for any corporation to receive pay for labor or services performed or rendered in violation of this act. Any person, or corporation, or employe of any person, or corporation in the District of Columbia, who shall violate the provisions of this act, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than $10 for every such offense; provided, however, that the provisions of this act shall not be construed to apply to persons who conscientiously believe and observe any other day of the week than Sunday as a day of rest."

The Associated Press.

Reader, Worcester, Mass.: The Associated Press is an association of daily newspapers, located in the leading cities of the country. They elect a general manager, whose office is New York, who has superintendence of the collection and distribution of the news. The Associated Press has agents at all important points, whose duty it is to collect news and forward it. Besides these agents, there is a staff of reporters at Washington to report the doings of Congress; and at any notable gathering—such as a national convention—a number of men are detailed to report its proceedings. The Associated Press leases wires from the Western Union Telegraph, three known operators, who are generally located in the offices of the newspapers belonging to the organization, and thus transmits its own news. The expenses are divided proportionally among the papers belonging to the association, and paid by them. There are several other news associations, but the Associated Press is the largest and oldest. As papers of all politics belong to it, its reports are not colored in the interests of any party. THE BLADE is a member of the Associated Press.

What "F. F. V.'s" Are.

Subscriber, Spring Creek, Wis., says: "In Senator Ingalls's speech on the Southern question, he says: 'I am proud to say that I am of ancient lineage—genuine F. F. V's.' I may be stupid, but I do not understand to what the abbreviations refer."

The letters "F. F. V." are abbreviations of the phrase, "First Families of Virginia," formerly largely used, and still heard, to indicate respectable lineage in Virginia. There were very few women in the Virginia colony from its settlement in 1607 to 1620. In the later year 90 young women, of good character, were sent over as wives for the colonists. Each husband had to pay his wife's passage, and the prices paid for them were 120 to 150 pounds of tobacco, or $90 to $112. The next year 60 more women were sent over. Probably the phrase, "first families of Virginia" originally referred to the descendants of these women.

The Lad Was "Ben Ezra."

Our thanks are due the dozen or more friends who kindly answered the query of E. G. M., of Beebe, Mich., in Bureau of Feb. 20:

"Who was the boy, and what was his name, who carried the basket that contained the five loaves and two fishes that fed the multitude, spoken of in John vi. 9?"

The answer is that "his name was Ben Ezra; he was the son of Miriam, who was the sister of Philip, who was one of the twelve disciples."

To this we may add that the "Ben" in Hebrew was "son of," and that the lad's name means "the son of Ezra"—whence we know that Ezra was the name of Miriam's husband, the father of the boy.

One answer says: "The answer is not to be found in the Bible, but in Greek history." Now will some one tell us in the works of what writer? We are extremely anxious to ascertain. Who will tell us?

"Cain's Wife."

Several friends (whom we thank) have written to correct what they conceive to be an error in the Bureau of Feb. 20, where we said: "The Bible gives no account of any other children of Adam and Eve but Cain and Abel," and point at Genesis iv. 25, which speaks of the birth of Seth; and Genesis v. 4, which says Adam "begat sons and daughters." But the murder of Abel, the flight of Cain, and his marriage all took place *before* the birth of Seth or the "sons and daughters." Probably of the language we read was not long enough. We found that the Bible gives no account of any other children of Adam and Eve but Cain and Abel, up to the time of Cain's marriage, as stated in Gen. iv. 17. All the others mentioned were born after that event. We presumed that this was so plain as not to need any mention.

Population of Salt Lake City.

Ortini, Toledo, O., asks: "What is the population of Salt Lake City at the present day? I can only find for the year 1870, when it was 12,854."

At the late municipal election in Salt Lake City, the registration was 7,900 and the vote 6,300. This did not include the disfranchised Mormons, nor a large number of unnaturalized foreigners, of whom 600 to 700 to 800 new comers, not entitled to registration. Counting these and the young voters, and also those to be naturalized and recently located citizens, Salt Lake will have practically a voting population of quite 10,000 at the election next August. Taking into consideration that Mormon families are very large, there is every indication that the census will show a population of fully 50,000 in the city.

The "Palisades" of the Hudson.

M., New Grand Chain, Ill.: 1.—The "Palisades" is a name given to a cliff that extends along the western side of the Hudson river from Fort Lee, opposite the northern end of New York city, to a point over 20 miles northward. This cliff is from 200 to 500 feet in height. The rock is columnar in structure, and resembles palisades in general appearance. We may remark that palisades are defences made by splitting small logs in half, sharpening one end, and driving them into the ground close together, the round sides outward. The early stockades, built for defenses from Indians, were made in this way. 2.—Storm King is the name of a mountain overlooking the Hudson river, a few miles above New York. 3.—Grand Menan is an island off the east coast of Maine, at the entrance to the Bay of Fundy, belonging to New Brunswick.

H. W. Herbert—Ben Wade.

J. W. H., Daytona, Fla.: 1.—Henry Wm. Herbert was born in London, England in 1807; committed suicide in New York in 1858. He crossed the ocean in 1831, and taught in a private school till 1839. He wrote during this time and after he left teaching devoted himself to literature. The works by which he is best known are those on field sports, written under the name of Frank Forester.

2.—Hon. Benjamin F. Wade was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1800; died in 1878. He was an ardent abolitionist; United States senator from Ohio in 1851 to 1869; introduced the homestead bill in Congress; was president of the Senate on the inauguration of Andrew Johnson; was one of the San Domingo commissioners in 1871.

The Latest Geographies.

C. B. F., Cattaraugus, N. Y.: 1.—Publishers of geographies generally revise them promptly, when new discoveries are made, or political changes occur. Of course booksellers work off the stock on hand before ordering the later ones. If you want a geography with changes made by the admission of the four new states, look on the title-page, and who publish it, and write to them asking how soon you can get a revised copy; and have it sent by mail. 2.—Tables can be arranged, after the manner of the one we gave for the 19th century, for any or all centuries. Some or these days we will publish an universal one. 3.—We can not discuss mathematical problems here, as they are not of general interest.

The New York Fire Zouaves.

J. L., Palatine, Ill., writes: "I find, on close examination, that I was wrong in regard to the time of organization of the New York Fire Zouaves, and desire to make the following correction: After the proclamation of the President, on April 15, 1861, Col. Ellsworth went immediately to New York and organized a zouave regiment of 1,200 men from the fire department. On April 29, they left New York for Annapolis, Md. On May 23, they were ordered from Washington to Alexandria, arriving there on the 24th. It was during that time that they are familiar to the most of your readers. The subsequent history of this regiment and of the Black Horse cavalry were as before stated."

Flint Arrow-Heads.

A. P., Evansport, O.: It is impossible to tell the age of the flint arrow-head you send. They were manufactured and used by the Indians until they obtained fire-arms of the whites. The mound builders also used them, and the writer years ago aided in excavating some magnificent specimens of arrow and spear-heads from mounds in Southern Ohio, which are now in the Peabody Museum at Salem, Mass. But the latest opinion of archæologists is to the effect that the mound-builders were of the same race as the Indians, so it amounts to the same thing in the end.

Queen Victoria's Surname.

J. S. T., Muskegon, Mich., writes, concerning a recent answer in which we said Queen Victoria has no surname, as follows: "An Episcopal clergyman, right from England, informs me that Prince Albert's surname was Wettin, which would of course be Queen Victoria's married surname."

We can find no authority for the statement that Prince Albert's surname was "Wettin." We should be glad to have proof of the statement, which we have often heard, but have never been able to verify it.

2.—"Thanks; but the 'Wm. Carlton' a correspondent inquired about is not Will Carleton, the author of "Farm Ballads."

Democracy for Free Trade.

B. Q., Eureka, Ill., asks: "Is the Democratic party a free trade party?" Yes, in spite of their denials. A tariff either is protective or it is not. The Democratic party is opposed to protection. Now, a "tariff for revenue only" is simply a tax on the consumer, which a protective tariff is not. So the argument that the tariff is a tax, would apply to any tariff, no matter how low it might be. The argument for its entire removal. Then those men who avow themselves in favor of free trade, the abolition of all tariffs, like Frank Hurd, are Democrats, and leaders in the party.

Kentucky's Northern Boundary.

M. B., Hewins, Kan., writes: "I see in Question Bureau of February 27 that Kentucky owns the Ohio river on the northern boundary of that state to the low water mark on the north shore. Do you mean that Kentucky has jurisdiction over the Ohio river to low water mark on the Ohio, Indiana and Illinois side? I saw the above in the article about Islands."

That is exactly what we mean. Kentucky has legal jurisdiction to low water mark on the north side of the river.

"The Demagogue."

—, Paloose City, Wash., asks: "1.—Please state in what year the late D. R. Locke wrote 'The Demagogue,' and the length of time was he engaged in writing it?"

1.—No one knows. At least one of the chapters was written about 1877 or 1878. It was written at intervals, a chapter at a time as it fitted in between other matters in regular order. Sometimes years intervened, in which nothing was written. It is utterly impossible to state the actual time consumed in writing it.

Prohibition North and South.

P. N., Elizabethtown, Ind.: Prohibition in the South has been through the local option method. Local option in the South was accomplished, not because the Democratic party favored it, but by the people acting entirely irrespective of politics. Had the enthusiasts in the North, who think nothing can be done without a political party, the wisdom to avoid raising partisan antagonism, the cause of prohibition would move faster. That more has been done South then North is not true.

The Table of New Moons.

J. J. N., La Porte, Colo., writes, in regard to the table given recently for finding the new moon, that it does not agree with the published calendars. Out of the 12 new moons for 1890, the table gives the dates of 7 as one day later than the almanacs give them. We are not able to say where the fault lies. In all probability, the table is only approximately correct—that is, when the moon occurs close upon midnight, the table will give it for the day ahead. If some scientific reader has leisure to look into the matter, we shall be glad.

Alaska—National Banks.

J. M. C., Keelville, Kan.: 1.—Alaska was purchased by the United States from Russia by a treaty ratified on May 20, 1867, we paying Russia $7,200,000 for it. 2.—The reason the national banking system is called "the best the world ever saw," is because the notes issued by national banks will circulate in any part of the country freely, at their par value; and this is because of the government requiring a deposit of its own bonds to receive the notes. So, if the bank fails, the notes do not become worthless, as they would in the case of private banks.

Contents of That Lime Kiln.

A. H. H., Kalamazoo, Mich., writes: "I think that the following is a simpler solution than one given by L. V. F., in the Bureau of February 27, to an inquiry from P. C. G., of Hancock, Pa.: "Rule—The sum of the areas of both ends added to the square root of the product of the areas of both ends multiplied by one-third of its height, will give the contents in cubic feet."

"Pairing" Congressmen.

L. A. T., Adlison, W. Va.: 1.—Members of the English Parliament receive no salary. 2.—When a Representative or Senator is unavoidably compelled to be absent, he "pairs" himself with a fellow-member of the opposite party, the one who is present pledging himself not to vote on any measure on which party lines are drawn, so that the absence of the other will not give the opposite party any advantage.

Miscellaneous.

M. H. C., Toledo, O.: Yes.

W. D., Chucky Valley, Tenn.: We do not know.

L. T., Ellensburg, Wash.: We never saw the songs you mention.

G. W. N., Butlerville, Ind.: We never heard of the writer you mention.

J. B., St. Francis, Kan.: Sorry, but we don't keep the run of prize-fights.

J. A. B., McCune, Kan.: Get a bookseller to order it for you. See Rule 2.

A. J. C., Axtell, Kan.: We never saw the article you quote. Send us a copy.

D. E. A., Dry Valley X Roads:—No addresses given. Observe Rule 1 he eafter.

H. H., Williamston, Mich.: For list of duties on grain, etc., see Bureau of Jan. 9.

J. A. T., Clay Center, Kan.: Thanks; but 40 stanzas are too long for us to publish.

E. R., Steamboat Rock, Iowa: We have not the facts to give a biographical sketch.

J. F. M., German, O.: We never heard of a liquid smoke preparation for curing meat.

W. J. G., Washtucna, Wash.: I—You can replace the wood of a patented article, using the old iron. 2—There is no truth in the witch-hazel method of finding water.

T. Flora, Pa.: We shall publish "Sheridan's Ride" after awhile in "Old War Songs."

Subscriber, La Gro, Ind.: No time-piece has ever been invented that requires no winding.

Ex-Soldier, Kan.: There is no provision that none but soldiers shall be census enumerators.

E. D., Bennington, Ind.: It is probable that Germany would be the victor in a war with France.

E. L. B., Eddyville, Ill.: Your cow question has been handed to the Farm editor, where it belongs.

Constant Reader, Angola, Mo.: The United States does not impose any tax upon mills of any kind.

F. D. E., West Unity, O.: We never saw the book you mention, and know nothing of its authenticity.

Reader, Scott's, Mich.: Alaska was never annexed to Washington Territory. Where did you get that idea?

H. P., Britton, Ok.: 1.—We have not the song you ask for. We cannot republish the national platforms of 1888.

R. M. C., Scioto, Ill.: Only one of our vessels is to be patterned after the Benbow. We have no description of the latter vessel.

H. M. M., Steamsburg, Neb.: 1.—We do not remember. 2.—Albert Sidney Johnston and Joseph E. Johnston are not related.

L. H., Muscatine, Iowa: We know nothing of the origin of the belief in so-called "madstones." All scientific men believe them humbugs.

J. B., Waverly, Kan.: The table in THE BLADE, of Feb. 13, giving the amount of money per capita in circulation, does not include the money in the treasury.

D. H., Whilton, Iowa.: We can give no recipe for regular tanning, and removing the hair from skins. Better take the skin to a tan-yard and have it done.

J. S. K., Ceresco, Neb.: The story that the attempt to obtain a new charter of North Dakota was inspired by Chairman Quay and President Harrison is an atrocious lie.

H. H. E., Wessington, S. D.: How on earth do you expect us to know the occupations of the hundreds of delegates to a national convention? No one ever took the trouble to ascertain.

O. J. N., Mestilla, Kan.: The different governments buildings have each a custodian, who hires a watchman, if one is needed. Watchmen do not need a civil service examination.

G. L. H., White Salmon, Wash.: President Lincoln never officially offered to allow Southern slaveholders to retain their slaves if they would lay down their arms.

Iowa Girl, Toledo, Iowa: Better purchase a cheap hand book on electro-plating, which any bookseller can order for you. We cannot take space to give the formulae here.

R. R., Cuba, Kan.: Your questions show that you do not understand the difference between electricity, magnetism and galvanism. Read some school text book on natural philosophy.

C. E. B., Hazen, Ill.: The "Tariff Reform" committee, of New York, which is flooding the West with free trade trash, is a Democratic affair, working for the nomination of Cleveland in 1892.

W. S. T., Reno City, Oklohoma: The salary of a United States Senator is $8,000 a year; member of the house, $5,000; cabinet officers, $10,000; vice president, $10,000; speaker of the house, $10,000.

A. B., Edgewood, Iowa: All that is known of Jack the Ripper, is that he murdered a number of disreputable women in each case cutting the throat, and then mutilating the body in a horrible and nameless manner.

M. A. M., Blotcher, Ind.: There are three systems of short-hand that are commonly used—Pitman's, Graham's and Munson's. Any book-seller in New York and Cincinnati keeps either system. Don't try to learn by yourself.

F. M., Altona, Ind.: We cannot undertake to discuss your topics in full. The Bureau is for information, not for discussion. If you will ask questions about what you want to know, observing the rules, we will try to help you.

E. E. H., Hanover, Kan.: The boundary between British America and the United States, from Lake of the Woods to the Pacific, is marked by a wide path cut through the woods, as if for a railroad, with stone posts set up at every mile.

M. M., Toledo, O.: The four new states—the Dakotas, Washington and Montana—are the only ones admitted since 1876. There are now 42 states and 7 territories—Idaho, Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Indian Territory and Alaska.

E. M., Angola, Ind.: Look at a type-writer, and see if it could be better; if will be found a full column of explanation. It takes from 4 to 12 weeks to learn to operate one rapidly. Type-writer operators are not in much demand unless they can also write short-hand.

T. A. R., Henry, Ill.: The sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives acts as cashier, drawing the money and paying the members their salary; it is his duty to preserve order during the sessions, bring in absent members when so ordered by the Speaker, etc.

Reader, Epworth, Iowa: The new government is only provisional, and will be replaced by another when the constitutional convention, called to meet in about a year, completes its work. Your question is hence valueless. That Brazil will remain a republic is reasonably certain.

C. L. J., Billing, Mo.: 1.—If a man retires from business he should do so while his faculties are unimpaired; but he should occupy his mind, so that it will not be injured by the change from active work to comparative idleness. 2.—The best mental work is done after the age of 40 years, as a rule.

F. C. Dawson, Pa.: 1.—We do not understand what you want to know. Carbonic acid gas is in the atmosphere in winter as well as in summer. 2.—Edison has no "theory of gravitation," that we ever heard of. 3.—The oldest exclusively male college in the United States is Harvard, we think.—Caleb Mason is a fictitious character.

R. H. M., Hamlin, Kan.: We have no minister to Nicaragua, but one to all the Central American states. His address is, "Hon. Lansing Mizner, U. S. Minister, Guatemala City, Guatemala, Central America." Probably you had better address "Hon. D. Bernard Macauley, U. S. Consul, Managua, Nicaragua, Central America."

J. S. E., Mendon, Pa.: There is no place in America called "Sacred Ground." Are you not thinking of Mrs. Remans's poem, the "Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers," whose last stanza begins:

"Ah! call it holy ground,
The spot where first they trod!"

C. J. B., Unadilla, N. Y.: 1.—See "McGinty," in Bureau of Jan. 30. 2.—The man goes round the world; whether he sees the squirrel or not don't alter the fact. 3.—If there were a hole through the earth, anything dropped therein would come to rest at the center. The calculation as to the point of greatest velocity would be a very complex one, from which you must excuse us.

B. E. A., New Matamoras, O.: 1.—Stonewall Jackson was the rebel general who was accustomed to pray before he went into battle. 2.—Mrs. Harrison does not serve wine at teas. 3.—The two Presidents elected by the House of Representatives were Jefferson, in 1801, and John Quincy Adams, in 1825. For the reason, see constitution of the United States, Twelfth Amendment.

Subscriber, Pottersburgh, Kan.: 1.—Consult a lawyer. We know nothing of the Kansas law. 2.—What "magnesia" do you mean? Sulphate of magnesia is Epsom salts, carbonate of magnesia is used as a face powder and as a medicine. Tell us what you mean, and we will try to answer. 3.—A "locus" is the line traced by a point which varies its position according to some determinate law.

J. B. A., Birmingham, Mich.: 1.—The reason Easter is a movable festival is given elsewhere. 2.—The sun only shines on half the earth at once. Its immense distance more than compensates for its great size. 3.—No one has any idea of the amount of the Confederate debt, and no one knows the amount raised. The gold that was in the rebel treasury was taken by the Jeff Davis party, and was captured.

R. E. H., South Haven, Mich.: 1.—A ship draws the same amount of water, whether in a river or lake, in shallow or deep water. 2.—A floating object sinks in the same depth whether the water is deep or shallow, and it is no easier for a swimmer to float in shallow as in deep water. You have evidently mixed up salt water with fresh. Salt water is heavier than fresh, and a vessel will have less draught in salt than in fresh water, as she floats higher.

J. B. G., New Berlin, O.: It is no part of a government's duties to become a common carrier. A railroad is different from a canal or an ordinary road; in the latter, the government merely makes a way for traffic; it does not carry on the traffic itself, as the state would do if it owned a railroad. All the needed protection to the people can be obtained by proper control of railroads, without the necessity of the government buying or building them.

Schoolgirl, East Bethlehem, Pa.: 1.—We know of no city nicknamed the "Granite City." There probably is one, but the name is not commonly known. 2.—The expression, "carrying coals to Newcastle," is applied to any act which is superfluous and useless. Newcastle, England, is the center of a mining district, and does an immense business in shipping coal by water. Hence to carry coal thereto is to take there an article of which they already have too much.

J. C. M., King City, Mo.: Originally persons had but one name. Afterward the custom of having two or more came up. The custom of having a surname is only a few centuries old among the nations of Europe. 2.—Residents of the District of Columbia do not vote. For reasons in full, see Bureau of Jan. 30. 3.—It would take more space than we can now spare to give a list of all coins bearing a premium. If you have any particular ones, we will try to give their value, if you will give denomination and date.

W. G. M., Wellington, Kan.: 1.—The value of a gold dollar resides in the gold it contains. The government simply certifies to its weight and fineness. It is money itself, not a promise to pay money, as a greenback or bank note dollar is. 2.—"Clay was in the succession" means that he was the most prominent man in the party, and was generally looked upon as being entitled to the next presidential nomination. We should be glad to know where this phrase occurs, on what page of what book, and by whom the book is published. It is asked about a hundred times every year.

Country Physician, Princeton, Ky.: The loss of a gold certificate is exactly like the loss of a bank note—it falls on the holder. Gold and silver certificates are not made out payable to an individual, nor are the names of depositors recorded. The treasury would be the gainer. 2.—A government bond bears interest, is made for a specified term of years; a treasury note bears no interest, and is payable on demand. Bonds are for large sums—$500, $1,000, etc.—while treasury notes are in small denominations. 3.—Herodotus and other historians tell us who built the pyramids; and this is confirmed by inscriptions in many cases.

THEIR NAMES IN PRINT.

Women Who Are Fond of Seeing Themselves in the Papers—The Detective Camera.

NINE women out of every ten like to see their names in the papers. It is a small vanity, and when it is accompanied by ajectives such as *distingue*, beautiful, pretty or well-bred, the fortunate woman buys many copies of the paper, blue-marks the paragraph which sets forth her charms, and circulates them through the kindness of Mr. Wanamaker to her numerous friends. Occasionally, however, the men of the family rise up in their might and object to sister's photograph being in a newspaper column, from which it will possibly be used as an advertisement for some complexion remedy, and from that come down to being a picture in a box of cigarettes. Very often these pictures are willingly given to society reporters; again, they are gotten in a roundabout way, through a friend, and occasionally just how they are gotten cannot be found out, but I'll tell you how one was:

THE STORY OF A PRETTY WOMAN'S PICTURE.

It was the picture of an extremely beautiful woman, a woman of fine feeling and good breeding who would no more think of letting Tom, Dick, or Harry, be her most intimate friends, than she would show them her photograph as delineated by the newspaper artist. She had a photograph taken by an amateur. Only one was reproduced, and this she gave to the man whom she expected to marry. As it was a unique picture it was given the special place of honor in his favorite room, where her portraits were many. This man, by the by, was a collector of fine books—a student, and one who seldom went away, except when on duty to his fiancee, from his own cosey apartment. One day there came to see him a stranger, equipped with a great deal of information about some wonderful missals that were to be obtained at a remarkably low price. Eagerly the collector listened, and when, after a certain amount of discussion, the stranger asked if he might look about the room at some of the rare books and bits of porcelain, the host consented very gladly, because during that time he could write down the names of the coveted books.

ONE USE OF THE DETECTIVE CAMERA.

While his back was turned he heard a curious click which startled him just at first, and he looked around. The stranger seemed a bit embarrassed, but the host thought it simply because of the suddenness of the sound, and, indeed, gave it no thought at all at the time. Two weeks after a copy of the photograph of his fiancee appeared in one of the papers; a copy of that photograph which he alone possessed. How was it done? His valet was summoned, and declared he had never permitted a stranger to enter the room. The description of the girl showed an absolute ignorance of her surroundings and ancestry on the part of the writer, so that it undoubtedly was the work of a stranger. Suddenly the visit of the man about the missals was remembered; the curious click and his confusion thought of, and it dawned on the mind of master and man alike that he was a fraud; that he had heard that picture was there, and that while the gentleman of the house was occupied in writing out the names of the books, he had taken with a detective camera the picture which had been so ardently desired. Nothing could be done, for the people who owned the paper knew nothing whatever of this, the photograph being brought and sold to them in the ordinary way. The only consolation was that the photograph from the photograph taken in person was a poor one, which the newspaper rendered worse, and it would have been difficult for her own father to have recognized his daughter if the name had not been underneath. But that is how the picture of one pretty woman got into the newspapers.

DOLLY KNICKERBOCKER.

New York, March 13, 1890.

—Hood's Sarsaparilla is on the flood tide of popularity, which position it has reached by its own intrinsic, undoubted merit.

SCIENTIFIC DROPS.

In Germany butter is now being made from the milk of the cocoanut.

It has been found by a scientist that red sealing-wax looked red in gaslight and a dirty white color in the light of a spirit lamp. This opens a wide field for the study of colors.

An interesting astronomical discovery is announced from Italy. After ten years of investigation, Schiaparelli has found that Mercury, the planet nearest to the sun, has a rotation like that of the moon.

A new process for burning coal without smoke has lately been discovered. It consists in sprinkling water containing a special preparation of resin over the coal, and the result is that there is no smoke and the glow is as intense as coke.

A remarkable three-story reservoir has just been built upon Montmartre, the highest point in Paris. The capacity is 11,000 cubic metres and the area 2,300 square metres. It is purposed to supply the whole city with water from this high level.

An artificial sponge industry is being developed as an outcome of experiments made by Dr. Oscar Schmidt, of the university of Gratz, in Styria. Small pieces of living sponge planted by the experimenter in a favorable spot have yielded large sponges in three years at a very small expense. In one trial the cost of the cultivation of 4,000 sponges was not more than $45. The new industry on the coast of Dalmatia has asked for government protection.

The brick manufacturers of McKeesport, Pa., and Pittsburg are becoming interested in a patent chemical process for making brick without the usual burning which has always proved necessary. It is claimed that the brick can be made and hardened in two days at a cost of $2 per thousand, or at one-half of the average price. Another feature is that the process will permit the brick to be made in all colors, and that the hard article for street improvement can also be made.

Glass blowing by machinery is being performed successfully at Ellenville, N. Y. The machine consists of an iron upright, around which revolve arms fitted with molds for shaping the glass. A pipe supplied with a current of air and readily manipulated by the operator, does the work of blowing. The machine is said to be capable of turning off 100 dozen perfect bottles a day. It costs but about $200, and will take the place of two skilled men, who command from $5 to $7 a day each.

The most

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1890.

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TOLEDO BLADE CO., ... Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE, ... Editor.

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Circulation Last Week, 114,000.

TO COMRADES WHO RECEIVE THIS NUMBER.

Our soldier friends are sending us in lists of names of comrades who do not take THE BLADE, that we may mail them sample copies, and receive their aid in working for a more liberal and just scale of pensions. Quite a number of comrades and others will receive sample copies of this issue. To them we say: We want the aid of your influence in our effort to build up public sentiment all over the country in favor of better pension legislation; to this end, we ask you to subscribe, and for your help to get others to do so. The influence of a paper is in direct proportion to the number of people who read it; and we propose to make our work count with Congress in this matter. We propose to *compel* our dilatory law-makers to do something; and to make the pension question a leading issue in the election of members of the Fifty-second Congress at the polls this fall. Will you help us? Give us the aid of your example, your assistance, and your influence!

THAT new type for THE BLADE is being made as rapidly as possible, and we shall be able to present our patrons the neatest, best-printed paper in the country in a short time.

THE LAST CHANCE TO OBTAIN "ANDERSONVILLE."

For a year or so we have not been advertising the famous book, "Andersonville," because we intended to abandon its publication, supposing that every one who wished it was supplied. Still, the orders have kept dropping in, two or three a week, which we have filled from the copies remaining from former editions. These being exhausted, we have had printed a final edition of 1,300 copies, which are now ready for delivery. When these are exhausted, the book will be out of print, and therefore uncotainable.

The book is one which every one interested in the war of the rebellion should have. It is the recital of the experience of JOHN MCELROY in Andersonville and other rebel prisons, and gives the best history of life in the prison-pens of the South which has ever been published. It is a large volume—so large that the postage on it is 25 cents—and was originally sold by subscription at $3 per copy. We will now send a copy by mail, postpaid, for $1.25. Remember this is the last chance; when the 1,300 copies now on hand are sold, the book will be out of print. Address "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

We are likely to have an entirely new set of designs upon United States coins. The House has already passed a bill authorizing the director of the Mint, with the approval of the secretary of the Treasury, to adopt new designs for the coins, which shall not be changed oftener than once in twenty-five years after their adoption. Power is given by the act to engage temporarily the services of one or more artists, distinguished in their respective departments of art, to prepare the designs. The bill is now before the Finance committee of the Senate, and Mr. MORRILL, chairman of the committee, who has long taken great interest in this subject, thinks that it will pass the Senate without any trouble. Speaking on this subject, he says:

"It is time that we should put forth some effort to improve the general character and appearance of our coins. What may have been acceptable, and even creditable, to our people in 1792 or 1837, is no more acceptable to our condition now than would be the arguments of a boy to the man after the lapse of a half century. The bill passed by the House does not go far enough. Our coins should from their size and character be easily distinguishable, whether by sight or touch, one from another, and there should be no silver or nickel coin, which by being gilded will simulate and pass for gold."

SENATOR SHERMAN put the so called Southern problem" in compact form in his speech in the Senate the other day. He said:

"But this feeling of injustice does prevail in the North, the feeling that while you are depriving the colored people of their votes you are exercising an undue power in the government. And until that is remedied—*either through the negro voting or through the race being excluded from the basis of representation*—there never will be a feeling of content and equality among the people of the Northern states. And now you complain of us. For what? For injustice, wrong, violence or bloodshed? No. You complain of us that we hate you. We deny the hatred. We demand the justice."

There it is, in a nutshell. Either the negro must be allowed his rights, or the white Bourbons must relinquish the political advantages they gain through the suppression of his vote. This demand is just, and our Southern brethren must take one of the other horn of the dilemma.

THE light and flippant comments on the pension question by newspapers which are known to be opposed to any and all pensions, says the Terre Haute *Express*, are not going to have any effect on "the soldier vote." These newspapers, which persistently opposed the war, and have as persistently opposed the pensioning of veterans, in their glee over a difference of opinion as to the expediency of certain measures, imagine that all the soldiers will vote to restore the Southern Democracy to the majority in Congress. Every soldier knows that all the negative votes on every pension measure that has become a law were cast by Democrats.

THE free traders have endeavored to make a great deal of capital out of the fact that some of the farms in New England have greatly depreciated in value. Now comes a story that a farm in Kent, England, that has for many years rented for £1,000 has lately been re-let to the same tenant at £500, and this is said to be a fair example of the decline of farm values in England. What will the GROVER CLEVELAND tariff reformers say to this? They cannot charge it to the "robbery" of a protective tariff.

THE liquor men in Michigan are preparing to test the constitutionality of the new local option law of that state, under which Van Buren county went overwhelmingly "dry" the other day. That is all right; test the law, by all means. And then, gentlemen, when its constitutionality is affirmed, be as eager to obey the law as you now are to find out whether you ought to obey it or not.

GOV. HOARD, of Wisconsin, does not appear to be frightened by the announcement of a Catholic crusade against the Bennett school law of that state. He declares that if he receives a renomination from the Republican state convention, the platform must sustain the law unreservedly.

A WORD TO OUR NEBRASKA FRIENDS

The fight for the Prohibitory amendment in Nebraska is growing warm. The friends of the movement should beware of exciting needless animosities, or rousing partisan zeal. What is wanted is votes—whether they be of Republicans, of Democrats, of Labor men, or of any one else. Pains should be taken to distinguish between voting for the amendment, and voting for the third party. There are thousands of voters who will support the amendment if they can feel assured that thereby they are not giving aid to the political Prohibition party, who will not otherwise do so. Fight the battle on non-partisan lines.

The work of the campaign should be entirely educational. The money lost through the Rum traffic, the detriment it is to business by absorbing money that would otherwise be paid over to merchants, grocers and others engaged in legitimate trade for the necessaries and comforts of life, must be shown to the people; and especially should they be brought to a realization of the terrible effect of the Rum habit on the moral nature of its victims, and the necessity of crushing out the saloon in order that a new crop of vicious and criminal men shall not be created through its pernicious influence. That drunkenness leads to vice and crime is disputed by some of the advocates of the saloon, but the preponderance of evidence is overwhelmingly against them. Said ROWLAND BURR, who was for twenty years a magistrate at Toronto, Canada:

"Nine-tenths of the male prisoners and nineteen-twentieths of the female are sent to jail by intoxicating liquors. In four years there were 25,000 prisoners in Canadian jails, of whom 22,000 owed their imprisonment to drinking habits."

The late Judge CADY, of New York, once declared in a public address that the greater portion of the trials for murder and assaults and batteries that were brought into court since his entrance on the practice of law originated in drunkenness.

Judge PATTERSON, of Norwich, England, in a charge to a grand jury, said:

"It it were not for this drinking you and I would have nothing to do."

Judge WESTBROOK, of Kingston, New York, a justice of the Supreme court, often expressed the opinion, both in private and in public, that at least three-fourths of those criminal cases which came under his observation, both while he was a legal practitioner and also off the bench, were due to the inspiration of strong drink.

"There can be no doubt that, of all the proximate sources of crime, the use of intoxicating liquors is the most prolific," is a sentence taken from the twentieth annual report of the executive committee of the Prison association of New York. A New York grand jury, in making one of its presentments, declared that "nearly all the cases for murder and assault and batteries which have been investigated have been found to spring from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors."

And we might go on and quote columns of such testimony from the best authority. It stands to reason that Rum-drinking impels men (and women, too) to crime and vice. It is a physiological fact that alcohol obscures mental perception; or, to phrase it differently, paralyzes the reasoning powers. A drunken person is more or less impervious to the appeals of conscience. Through the fumes of liquor lies dim the path of obligation, whether to the law or to one's fellow men. When intoxicated, the individual has a reckless disregard of what he owes to himself and to others, quite in contrast perhaps with his habitual course when in a state of sobriety.

And the grave fact remains that not only does drinking for the time being rob one of the full command of his intellect, which in itself opens the way to crime, but, indulgence repeated, the tendency is to deprive him altogether of intellectual force and debar him from clearly comprehending the responsibilities which rest upon him as a member of the family, community and state. It need scarcely be said, besides, that the excessive use of strong drink serves to arouse the passions into unnatural activity. Said Prof. OTTO, a distinguished authority:

"The greater part of the exciting influence of alcohol is directed toward the posterior and inferior portions of the brain; in other words, it excites chiefly the organs of the animal propensities. Hence, according to the relative degree of whatever stimulates strongly one class of cerebral organs weakens another, while alcohol is imparting fresh vigor to the propensities it is enfeebling the intellect and moral feeling."

Now, the drinking of Rum, which produces these debasing and brutalizing effects, is unnecessary. It is not food in any proper sense. It is a poison, and its effects are entirely evil. The work to be done in Nebraska is to convince the moral, intelligent voters that it is an evil, an useless evil, and one that can be removed, if they will give their votes for the amendment, and then heartily support its enforcement.

This educational work should be the objective point of the Nebraska campaign. If it is not done, defeat awaits the amendment. The tactics of the Rum Power, so far as they have been developed, are the same as in the Pennsylvania fight last year. They dodge the question of the evils of Rum, and aim to confuse the people by appeals to everything but their sense of right, of justice, of morality, of the duty this generation owes to the next and all succeeding ones. These points can not be controverted:

That if the majority of the people in any city or county heartily endorse Prohibition, it *does* prohibit;

That so long as a saloon is open, the way to temptation is broad before weak humanity;

That license fails, by allowing the saloon to exist at all;

And that, therefore, there is but one way in which the people of Nebraska can do their whole duty to themselves, their children, and their state—and that is, by the adoption of Prohibition, and its strict enforcement, to crush the saloons and

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THE New York *Tribune's* South American correspondents have developed some very important facts regarding our trade with those countries. In Montevideo, Uraguay, goods can be ordered and received from England and Germany in ten weeks, while no less than seven months are required to procure goods from this country. Most of the goods shipped from American ports reach their destination via Bremen, thus crossing the Atlantic twice, and costing the exporter proportionately more. Of 765 steamers which entered the Bay of Montevideo in 1888, not one flew the American flag. "Trade follows the flag," and our own mail steamers would carry our flag; therefore, let us have a line of mail steamers, to develop trade.

THE reason New Jersey goes Democratic has been discovered. A legislative investigation is in progress, which has already found that more than 2,000 Democratic tickets were put in the boxes illegally, and the inquiry has only begun. The Democratic party of the North is evidently attempting to import Southern election methods into the North.

THE Saxton ballot reform bill has passed both houses of the New York legislature, and after some technical amendments in the senate, the bill will go to Governor HILL for his approval. The question of interest now is, whether he will dare veto the bill in the face of the tremendous public sentiment in its favor among the people of New York.

DANGERS OF GERRYMANDERING.

The intent of the federal law providing for the districting of states for the election of members of the House of Representatives, is that districts containing as nearly as may be the same number of voters, compactly formed, shall be created. The habit of gerrymandering, of which we have such a startling example in Ohio at present, strains the letter of the law and plainly violates its spirit, and the principle on which Congressional apportionments are made. Gerrymandering is a fraud upon the people, wherever and by whomever practiced, and every honest man should denounce it, no matter whether his party or any other is responsible.

The gerrymander of Ohio is, however, to be made subsidiary to a new scheme for fraud on popular suffrage. A bill has been introduced in the state Senate by one BUCHANAN, to choose Presidential electors by Congressional districts instead of on a general ticket, as at present. Should this scheme carry, and not be reversed by the General Assembly to be elected in November, 1891, this would give the Democrats fifteen out of the twenty-three Ohio electors in 1892. It is simply a part of the Democratic plot to carry the Presidency, by fair means or foul, at the election that year.

There is no doubt but that the scheme is constitutional. The constitution of the United States declares that "each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress." Under that clause, the General Assembly of Ohio has full authority to say how the Presidential electors shall be appointed.

But is it wise, even in a partisan sense, for the Ohio Democrats to set the example of changing the usage which is endorsed by every state in the Union, even if they have the right? There can hardly be any one thing more certain in politics than that the legislature to be elected in 1891 will be Republican. It would have it in its power to upset the gerrymander, and to repeal the Buchanan bill, should it pass. And it might even go further. It might pass a bill giving the General Assembly the power to select the Presidential electors—for the constitutional provision, quoted above, gives it full power to do so.

In the early days of the republic, there were several states in which the legislatures chose the electors; but that power has been given the people, and now, in every state, they are chosen on a general ticket. This plan has more than once been attacked, and the idea has been advocated of a constitutional amendment arranging for an election by districts. The Buchanan bill affords a startling illustration of the danger of such a change. In many states the congressional districts are laid out by the states in violation of the spirit of the federal law and in violation of the principle on which congressional apportionments are made.

It is bad enough to have the choice of Congressmen affected by a gerrymander; it would be worse to have the choice of a President affected by it—which could only happen, as things now are, if an election of President should now devolve upon the House of Representatives. The Democrats of the Ohio legislature are sowing the wind, and will reap the whirlwind.

GET A WATCH FREE!

The attention of all readers is directed to the offer on the Trenton watch, in the Publishers' Department, fifth page. It is an excellent watch, and none have so far been returned under our warranty. It is the very best cheap watch in the market. We have several thousands of these watches, which we bought to give away to club raisers. To any one sending us a club of ten subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, and $10, we will send one of these watches free. We did not buy them to sell, but if any subscriber wishes one, we will send him the Weekly BLADE one year, and a Trenton watch, for $5. The watch retails in the jewelry stores at $5. Get up a club; you can earn yourself a good watch in a few hours.

THERE seems to have been a considerable change of public sentiment on the long and short haul clause of the interstate commerce law within the past two years. Then everybody was for the vigorous enforcement of it. Now the cry comes for its repeal. The St. Paul *Pioneer Press* has devoted some attention to the matter, and gives the result as follows:

"The farmers of Nebraska are clamoring for relief from the King Store that they set over them under the Act. And the farmers of every other section are suffering the same evil wherever the long haul rule is carefully obeyed. It ought not to be long before Congress comes to its senses sufficiently to see that this long haul rule is one of the greatest curses that railroad legislation has left us. For when the supposed beneficiaries of it become clamorous for its repeal, no other evidence is wanting. It is foolish to talk about amending the long-haul clause, or giving to the commissions limited power of suspension in special cases, because this is a power which they have always possessed, and have been too timid to exercise. There is but one thing to do, and that ought to be done as speedily as possible. The absolute repeal of the long-haul clause will be a benefit to every class in the community, and not least of those who were at first most earnest in asking its enactment."

THE news from the Nicaragua canal is cheering. Hon. WARNER MILLER, of New York, has just been chosen president of the new Canal Construction company, and this inspires public confidence, as he is a sagacious and energetic business man, of great abilities. The chief engineer of the company, Mr. MENOCAL, is now in New York in conference with Mr. MILLER, and they both intend to start for Nicaragua at once to examine the work personally. Greytown harbor, the eastern terminus of the canal, is now being dredged so as to permit of the entrance of large steamers. On shore the engineering parties are proceeding with their labors without delay from illness or any other causes. Remarkable good fortune has so far attended the enterprise. It has been conducted on sound American principles and the American people have cause to feel gratified that the prospects are so favorable for its early and satisfactory completion.

THE stories told by Democratic sheets as to Senator ALLISON'S "change of heart" on the tariff, are laughed at by the gentleman himself. According to the Philadelphia *Press* correspondent, who has conversed with him, Mr. ALLISON "is in favor of protection the same as heretofore, and has not changed his opinions on the subject at all. He is no more in favor of free wool than he was in the last Congress, when he advocated an increased duty on that article. He is in favor of giving more protection to the farmers, and when the tariff bill comes up in the Senate he will be found taking the same stand on the subject as at the last session, excepting where conditions may be changed."

THERE is too much nonsense talked all over the country about the "easy times" members of Congress have. It is a mistake. The members who do their duty are about as diligent a set of hard workers as can be found anywhere. They have very little time for themselves. The members of the Ways and Means committee, for instance, have found business affairs so pressing at the capitol that they have been compelled to abandon temporarily their day sessions, and have determined to hold evening sessions of the committee.

TEN DOLLARS FOR CLUBS!

THE BLADE is now offering the highest cash payments for clubs of any of the newspapers of the country. Those who wish to raise clubs and receive a cash premium will please write to us for confidential terms to agents.

Those who desire to earn one or more of the other premiums on our list, should read the following offers:

For a club of 10 subscribers, at $1 each, we will give a Trenton Watch, worth $5—a *guaranteed watch.*

For a club of 15 subscribers, at $1 each, a china tea set.

For a club of 20 subscribers, at $1 each, a china chamber set, or a Blade cook stove.

The teaset, chamber set and cook stove are the same that have already been described in our columns.

As an aid in raising clubs, write to us for all the specimen copies you may need. We will gladly furnish them free.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN TONGUE.

The progress of the English tongue as a language, and the decadence of French and German, is again recalled by the fact that the two international conferences at Washington used English in their discussions. In SHAKESPEARE'S time, less than six millions of people used English. A century ago, when WASHINGTON was President, less than sixteen millions used it, while between thirty and fifty millions used French. Fifty years ago, as many people used German as English.

What is the situation to-day? English is spoken by at least one hundred million people; German by about sixty millions; French by about forty-five millions. The growth of the English tongue has not been through a forced governmental policy, but because the English-speaking races have more enterprise, more push, and the one which has led in exploring and settling the desirable portions of the globe not already occupied by civilized nationalities. Wherever the English-speaking people went, their language became the leading tongue; and now a man can belt the world in his travels, needing no language but English to make himself understood.

This is a thing that is not true of any other language, and marks not only the fact that the English race has spread itself all around the world, but the additional one, whose importance does not as yet seem to be fully comprehended, that the English language is very generally known by educated people, especially those engaged in business, whose mother-tongue it is not. The fact that the members of the Pan-American Congress and of the international Maritime conference, at Washington, understand and use English so well, is a proof of this. It is spoken by more people in the United States than the whole population of Great Britain; and while it is, generically, the "English" language, it might well be called the "Anglo-American" tongue, to mark the two great nationalities with whom it is native.

THE net result of the elections to the German Reichstag is that the present ministry has sustained a serious defeat—which is to be attributed to the phenomenal increase of the Socialist and Labor vote. The Cartel or administration party went to the polls with the avowed intention of "developing and increasing the military system of the empire on which the latter was originally founded, and which forms the main source of its strength and power." On this issue the Cartel party has been ignominiously beaten. On the other hand, the opposition, which includes Socialists, Workingmen, Centralists (Catholics) and Progressists, each voting a ticket of its own—and often in rivalry to one another—demands a reversal of the policy of Prince BISMARCK, the abolition of anti-Socialist laws, and the wholesale reduction of the military burdens of the empire. These constitute the principal planks of the platform on which the opposition have won such a signal victory against the government. The voice of the great German nation demands a radical change in the imperial policy which has heretofore been in force at Berlin. What will be the outcome? is now the question of the hour. Will Kaiser WILHELM yield to the wishes of the people, and consent to the reduction of the army and the retirement of BISMARCK?—for the ministry, being defeated at the polls, should retire from power. We doubt the Emperor's acquiescence, and look to war upon some pretext, to avoid the military reduction which the majority of the people demand.

SOME of the Democratic papers are asserting that the Republican party has no policy. In its one year of return to power the Republican party has displayed a policy distinctively American in its dealing with foreign powers, as is evidenced by its treaty negotiated with Great Britain and the settlement of the Samoan difficulty with Germany. Its policy in dealing justly and fairly with the Union veterans of the late war; in building up our navy and in encouraging a merchant marine; in dealing with the republics of South America; in protecting American industries and American labor, and in protecting every voter in the country, whether white or black, in the free exercise of his right of suffrage, has been emphatically announced and will be fully carried out.

THE friends and admirers of Hon. ROBERT T. LINCOLN will rejoice that he has decided not to resign his position as minister to Great Britain on account of the death of his son. The whole country sympathizes with him in his great bereavement, but the people also applaud him that he has determined to emulate the example of Secretaries BLAINE and TRACY, and continue to perform his public duty notwithstanding his great private grief. Mr. LINCOLN has rendered signal service at the Court of St. James, his true Americanism being in marked contrast with the snobbishness and subserviency shown by the representative of the last administration.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette* calls the turn on those papers which are assuming that the Democrats, in gerrymandering this state, are merely following Republican precedent, and states the cold facts thus:

"Ohio Republicans have never been guilty of that outrage. There have been in Ohio only three interferences, by gerrymanderings, with the decennial arrangement of districts, and all of them have been by the Democrats. The Republican regular decennial arrangement of districts, abolished by the present gerrymander, was so fair that the Democrats have elected fourteen out of twenty-one congressmen under it."

A POINT of interest to counties which have prohibition under local option has been lately decided by the Kentucky Supreme court. It is, that when whisky ordered by letter is shipped from one county to another by express, "C. O. D.," the sale takes place in the county in which the whisky is delivered to the carrier, and is not a violation of a prohibitory liquor law in force in the county to which it is shipped.

THERE should be no postponement of the World's Fair. It should take place in 1892, or not at all. If Chicago can't get ready in that time let some other city try her hand at it. But Chicago can do it if she only sets about it.

MISSISSIPPI "ELECTIONS."

The contest for the seat from the second Mississippi district presents some extraordinary features which will be brought out in the debate in the House on the matter of the contest. The testimony will throw a flood of light upon those election frauds to which has been given the name of "the Mississippi plan." Gen. JAMES R. CHALMERS, the Republican contestant, claims that he received not less than 2,000 majority of the votes actually cast, although the Democratic contestant, JAMES B. MORGAN, holds the seat by an alleged majority of 1,800. The facts that have been ascertained by the committee's investigations may be summarized as follows:

In the district are two counties which have large white (Democratic) majorities and here the elections are always reasonably fair. In these two counties, with 3,000 white majority, MORGAN'S plurality was only 1,606, while in some western counties, which have 2,500 negro majority, MORGAN was given even a larger plurality than in the two counties named. It is shown beyond dispute that the election board of the state, consisting of the governor, lieutenant governor and secretary of state, whose duty it was to appoint commissioners of elections for each county, refused to appoint any one to represent the Republicans, except such as were recommended by the Democratic county committees, and no inspectors of elections asked for by the Republicans were appointed.

The decision has already been made by the House committee on elections, in two cases which have been passed upon at the present session, that the appointment of election officers only on the recommendation of one party constitutes a fraud, and vitiates the returns. This ruling of the committee is sustained by the decision of Judge BLATCHFORD, a case arising in New York city where the County Democracy and Tammany were contending against each other as to who should name the Democratic supervisor. The returns being vitiated, no votes can be counted except those otherwise proved. Taking the votes proved by the testimony of witnesses examined, after allowing MORGAN 1,692 majority in the ten Democratic counties, CHALMERS has a majority of 2,100.

There are 97 voting precincts in the district, and the proof shows fraud at 63 of these. This, however, is by no means all that has been proved by the testimony. Negroes were beaten and maltreated at one precinct in Tallahatchie county, and one precinct in another county. At Hernando, the home of MORGAN, the houses of leading Republicans were fired into on the night before the election. At Oxford, the names of Republican voters were erased from the registration books to prevent their voting. Four hundred were thus scratched off in this one town. The United States supervisor, a white man, was walked over and he was not allowed to vote, although he and the 400 negroes were all present demanding that right.

The Democratic congressmen from the North are expected to support, by their votes to retain the contestee, such frauds as those above detailed, by which citizens of the district were disfranchised" by wholesale, simply because they are Republicans. And the Democratic press of the North will be expected to keep up the allegation that the Republicans of the House are unseating Democrats on trivial pretexts, in order to increase their majority. The fact is, they are performing a needed act of justice, which will not be complete until every one of the twenty-seven Southern Bourbons in the House, whose seats were obtained only through these and similar frauds, are all unseated. They all represent districts with heavy Republican majorities if an honest election were held and the votes fairly counted.

THE death of ex-Congressman TAULBEE places the life of the newspaper correspondent who shot him in serious jeopardy. In the state in which they both lived it is not likely that a jury would convict Mr. KINCAID of murder, but they would probably acquit him on the ground that having been called a liar and having his nose pulled, his honor demanded the life of his overgrown and cowardly assailant. But in the District of Columbia a different feeling exists. Human life is considered of some value there, and a man is not allowed to take the execution of the law into his own hands. It is perhaps as well that TAULBEE is dead. He was a bully and a coward or he would never have assaulted a frail and weak man like KINCAID, whom he had persistently hounded for many months. The story which KINCAID told in his paper was also sent off by other correspondents, and is believed to have been true, and it showed that TAULBEE had been guilty of an outrage upon decency, as well as upon morals. The world will be better off without him, but the crime of his murder rests upon KINCAID, and he will undoubtedly have to stand the punishment.

AN important resolution of inquiry has been presented in the House by Mr. BREWER, of Michigan, respecting pensions and pensioners, which should elicit much valuable information, as to the amounts paid from the national treasury on account of pensions, how much will be required under the arrearage bill, and how the sums disbursed for pensions compare with those consequent upon former wars in this country, and the pension list of European governments. Let us have all the information available, that Congress may be enabled to act intelligently in the legislation for additional pensions which is imperatively demanded, and which must be adopted.

THE French attack on Dahomey is going to be a rather serious affair. The Dahomians are sturdy warriors and will defend their territory with savage energy. The French agent on the west coast of Africa demands 4,000 troops to hold French posts, and another army of 4,000 to march on Aghome, the capital of Dahomey. It is to be hoped that the French government will respond promptly and energetically, as it will be a distinct gain to civilization to crush Dahomey, and prevent the horrible wholesale slaughter of innocent women and children in religious and other ceremonies to which the Dahomians are addicted.

WITH the commencement of spring come rumors of probable Indian difficulties. The Apaches, in particular, are said to be full of fire-water and a desire to kill the pale face. They will probably give the detachments of our army at the southwestern posts considerable occupation, and it is to be hoped that if skirmishes occur, as they undoubtedly will, no attempt to capture the red skins will be made. A dead Indian can do no damage; but a live one will be fed by the government until he is able to commit more murder.

THE McKinley tariff bill is very near completion, and a speedy agreement by the House Ways and Means committee is anticipated in regard to the sugar, the woolen and the metal schedules. It was upon these points that there was the greatest divergence of opinion, but now the differences are being satisfactorily adjusted. The bill will probably be reported very soon, and will be passed. The assertions of Democrats and Mugwumps that there would be no tariff legislation at this session of Congress will be found to be untrue.

STATE-STEALING is unprofitable outside of the Solid South, as the Ohio Bourbons will find to their sorrow the next time a state election rolls around.

THE SURPLUS.

The Democratic organs have just pulled out another stop, and are now grinding out a chorus on "Republican Extravagance." Mr. CARLISLE has acted as fugleman, and started the tune by making the following statements:

"The repeal of the limitations clause in the law granting arrearages of pensions will require the immediate payment of $471,000,000 on account of pensions already allowed.

"The Grand Army service pension bill, now pending before the committee, will require $144,000,000 per annum in addition to the amount now being paid on account of wounds and disease contracted in the service.

"The dependent pension bill, now under discussion in the Senate and which will be passed in a few days, will require about $50,000,000 per annum.

"The Blair educational bill, which has passed the Republican Senate three times heretofore and which is now under discussion in that body, proposes to appropriate $79,000,000."

But the people are too sensible to be gulled by that sort of thing. His figures in every case except the last are too large by at least one-third; and not one of these measures has yet been passed. The people will make up their judgment as to "extravagance" when the total of the appropriations actually made is ascertained; and they will take into consideration the purposes for which the money is used. If the money is for proper and useful purposes, there is no extravagance about it.

The claim is made, in connection with Mr. CARLISLE'S figures, that "the surplus has practically disappeared"—that it was $140,000,000 when President HARRISON went into office, and is now not more than $20,000,000. Without going into the correctness of these figures, the one fact is plain that the surplus all disappeared under Democratic appropriations. The appropriations for the present fiscal year, which ends on June 30, were all made by the last Congress, which expired on the day of HARRISON'S inauguration. The present Republican Congress has made no drafts on the treasury as yet.

Hence, if $120,000,000 of the surplus has been used, it has been done through the acts of a Democratic Congress, except the sums used in buying bonds and canceling them, by Secretary WINDOM—a proceeding by which the government made several millions, and which is in all respects a commendable policy. The Democratic organs cannot make the people believe that the money has been used, because the present Congress has before it several bills which will, if passed, require heavy appropriations. The blame must be with the Cleveland administration and the last Democratic House.

DE LESSEPS'S FAILURE.

The French commission of engineers, sent to examine the status of affairs on the Panama canal and to report thereon, has accomplished its work; and even the sanguine DE LESSEPS himself is obliged to confess that the canal is a disastrous failure, and will not be completed.

The report of the committee may be summed up as follows: The millions that have been spent on the project have resulted in the excavation of only about one-fourth of the earth necessary, and that the portion most easily removed; that, besides the three-fourths yet to be excavated there would yet remain the very difficult work of changing the course of the Chagres river, the removal and reconstruction of the Panama railroad, the building of all the locks, and still further expenditures upon the one-fourth already cut before it would be in condition to be used for navigation.

Thus ends in complete failure one of the greatest projects of modern engineering The fault was in selecting the isthmus of Panama as the place for the canal. The shortest line between the oceans was assumed to be the proper place, but it was not in this particular instance. The isthmus of Panama has a high mountain chain for a backbone, while the low country along the coasts is intensely hot and unhealthy. The Nicaragua route has advantages that more than counterbalance the shorter distance of the Panama line; but DE LESSEPS, with more haste than judgment, rushed into the work without a proper knowledge of the enormous natural obstacles in his way, and the present mortifying failure is the result.

THE farcical character of the investigation which is being conducted by Senator DOLPH'S committee into the matter of the leakage of the proceedings of the executive sessions, is becoming more and more apparent. He failed to get any satisfaction out of the newspaper correspondents, and now the Senators whom he has examined all assert that they never made any disclosures. This inquiry will probably hasten the death of the secret session. Except under extraordinary circumstances it is absolutely unnecessary, and public sentiment is crystallizing to that effect. The Senators are servants of the people and cannot afford to persist in that which the people generally condemn. The secret session must go.

ANOTHER French canal enterprise has proved a failure, aside from the gigantic Panama fiasco. This is the canal across the isthmus of Corinth in Greece. Its estimated cost was $6,000,000, but the French company that undertook it have sunk more than that already and have abandoned the enterprise. Fully $12,000,000 more capital is required and the discouraged French investor dreads the canal. Greece will have to look elsewhere than to France for funds to complete the enterprise.

HERE is a fact that it will be well to recall: Last week a 25-pound block of tin was received by a Pittsburg manufacturing firm. It was the first lot of commercial tin produced in this country. It came from the Hermosa tin mines in South Dakota, and was produced at a cost of $2.15 a pound against $4.44 at the famous mines in Cornwall, England. It is said that English capitalists are endeavoring to get control of the mines, to prevent competition.

AN English cotton spinning firm is about to build a $3,000,000 cotton mill in this country, to employ 2,000 hands. They say the tariff keeps them out of our market with the products of English cheap labor, and hence they will come to this country. That is all right. The money they paytout for labor will be paid to American workingmen, and go to aid the development of the country.

WE find the following paragraph is floating upon the newspaper sea, and do not know how correct the figures may be; but the farmer's share is not put too large, at least:

"From a bushel of corn a distiller gets four gallons of whisky, which retails at $16. The government gets $3.60, the farmer who raised the corn gets 40 cents, the railroad gets $1, the manufacturer gets $4, the retailer gets $7, and the consumer gets drunk."

EX-CONGRESSMAN and millionaire BILL SCOTT, of Pennsylvania, is taking a hand in the politics of that state. He is fighting the RANDALL wing of the Democrats, and will, if he keeps on, so divide the Democratic party in his state that the Republican majority this fall will be greater than ever.

REPRESENTATIVE CANNON takes Mr. CARLISLE to task for his misleading statements in regard to the surplus, and shows very conclusively that there will be no deficiency and that the ex-speaker was simply juggling with figures to make party capital.

AN APPEAL FROM JAPAN.

The women of Japan are becoming aroused to the necessity of educating the girls, that they may be able to take their places beside men in industrial pursuits and compete with them in the earning of a livelihood. An evidence of this is a circular sent to Miss FRANCES E. WILLARD and by her forwarded to THE BLADE, containing an earnest appeal from the W. C. T. U. of Japan to the women of the United States for help to establish an Industrial school for girls in Tokyo.

The first paragraph states its object as follows:

"This school is for the promotion of an industrial education among women. There are many schools for men and a few for women. If literature or philosophy be the object both sexes can be instructed, and if there is no knowledge of these things the manufacturer cannot be skillful; but intellectual knowledge alone will not sustain the body. The wealthy can purchase what they need and wish, but with the poor such is not the case. The poor must use their bodily strength to earn support. Women owning property are few; and although a woman may be educated, if she has no knowledge of manual industry she will always be poor. In proportion as women remain poor and ignorant they will have no influence, and will always be despised. Those who can do nothing are tempted not to marry, but engage in disreputable employment. Even if they marry they become the slaves of their husbands, and are unable to escape their tyranny. Such are greatly to be pitied."

The circular then goes on to speak of what relation a wife should stand to her husband, a helpmeet in every sense of the word, and not merely one to cook his food. She cannot be that, however, unless she may win his respect through her ability to help him accomplish what "he desires and works for." "Mothers of children," it says, "are their educators; if the mothers are ignorant and helpless, the children will remain ignorant, and society will be degraded."

The circular closes with the rules of "Jusamba, a department of the Girls' Industrial School," which show that the plan is a thoroughly practical one, to be carried forward in a practical manner.

Here is a chance for some excellent work to be done by women who are ready to promote the best interests of their sex everywhere. The readiness with which Japan has received and appropriated Western civilization in other things is evident here. The object is a most worthy one and ought to arouse a genuine sympathy which would prompt an effort to give the asked-for assistance. The elevation of the mothers, wives and sisters means the elevation of humanity. By all means let the women of the United States help their sisters in Japan.

REMOVE COMMISSIONER LYMAN!

A Washington dispatch intimates that the report of the House committee, which has been investigating the Civil Service Commission, will severely censure Mr. LYMAN and acquit Mr. ROOSEVELT of any intentional wrong-doing. THE BLADE has all along believed in the sincerity of Mr. ROOSEVELT, and his desire and intention to observe the spirit of the civil service law. His honesty of purpose and his independence of character were well known before he took his present office, and his appointment on the commission was hailed with satisfaction by fair-minded men of both political parties. It is not believed that the investigation has developed anything to change the good opinion that has been generally entertained of him. The part he took in recommending Mr. SHIDY for employment was undoubtedly the result of what he believed to be a sense of duty, through from Mr. SHIDY'S testimony it will be seen that he was not the type of man whom it is desirable to have in the civil service.

As for Mr. LYMAN, he deserves to be summarily removed for appointing his brother-in-law in the service after it had been proved that he had made barter of the questions of the commission. He should not be permitted to resign. He has fulfilled the true hypocrisy of the mugwump; for while in voice he has been loudest in expressions of devotion to the civil service law, he has in practice violated the spirit and even the letter of that law. During Mr. CLEVELAND'S administration he was a pliant tool in the hands of department officials who desired to secure the appointment of specified persons, and he should not be allowed to remain a day longer in the government service. The investigation has not impaired the law, but a man whose duty it was to administer the law.

THE surplus is being reckoned, as the result of two things: First, heavy appropriations made by the Democrats of the last Congress; second, the purchase of bonds and their cancellation. And as to the bills before the present Congress, there is not one which has any good chance of passing which is "extravagant" or "useless." Pensions to the veterans of the rebellion are a debt of honor; the erection of a government building in a thriving city is a good investment, and a saving to the government; for the amount now paid for rent for proper postoffice rooms, court rooms, etc., is more than the interest on the cost of the building. The improvement of the water-ways and harbors is an excellent investment, for it cheapens transportation. The Democrats will have to harp on some other string.

WHEN the duty on coffee was removed, eighteen years ago, the government of Brazil promptly put an export tax on it. The result was that the revenue we once obtained from it was collected by Brazil. A bill has been introduced in Congress authorizing the levy of an import duty on coffee from countries imposing an export duty. If enacted into law, it would doubtless result in the withdrawal of the Brazilian export tax.

MISS CLARA BARTON, President of the Red Cross society, makes an appeal to the country for aid for the 5,000 suffering people in the Dakotas. We may be sure the need exists, or Miss BARTON would not have called for aid. She never makes an appeal without painstaking investigation, and certainty in her own mind of the need of aid.

THE direct tax refunding bill has been reported favorably by the House judiciary committee, and will pass that body. It has already passed the Senate. It will then go to President HARRISON, and there is no fear that he will return it with a veto—as GROVER CLEVELAND did two days before his term expired.

IN the Maine municipal elections the Republicans were generally successful. Some towns, of course, went Democratic, and at Biddeford there was considerable excitement over the arrest of several deputy sheriffs.

FROM the silence of Democratic newspapers throughout the country on the subject, it would seem that they had not heard of the disgraceful gerrymander of this state. It isn't a piece of news that they care to particularly comment upon.

THE shortage of Mississippi's ex-treasurer now foots up $330,000. Bourbon state treasurers are an expensive luxury. The plan of stealing offices by suppressing the vote appears to stimulate them to steal state funds.

THE leading Democratic papers of the East condemn their own party's gerrymander of Ohio in strong terms. They understand clearly that it will react on Democracy.

CURRENT EVENTS.

There are 67,000 seamstresses in New York city.

Patti, when in Mexico, gave $5,000 to the poor of that country.

A popular Brooklyn preacher says that he can "see no objection to smoking if the man smok

THE PENSION QUESTION.

THIRD PAPER.

A General Discussion of the Inherent Justice of Service Pensions.

There are two elements necessary to the waging of war—men and money; men to do the fighting, money wherewith to purchase arms and munitions of war, food, clothing, etc.

The state has the right to demand both of these elements of warfare of its own people. It can call for volunteers to fill its armies, or it has the right to compel the service of every able-bodied citizen of military age, or such per cent of the total number as may be needed. It has the right to raise money for the expenses of the war by taxation, or through loans, or in any other way that may be deemed advisable.

When our government was confronted by an armed rebellion, seeking to disrupt the Union and create a new and independent government over the Southern group of states, it was the right and the duty of the federal government to crush this attempt by force of arms. It did so; but the task was a gigantic one. It took four years of warfare, such as the modern world had never seen; it called into the field armies which reached a total, in round numbers, of two million men; it created an immense navy; and it required several billions of dollars to meet the enormous and unprecedented expenses of those four years of civil war.

This money was raised, first by direct taxation, through the internal revenue, which included several devices; the taxation of all incomes greater than $1,000 per annum; stamp taxation on a vast number of articles; and taxes on liquors, tobacco, etc. Second, by the issue of government bonds, bearing interest, and minor measures, such as the "compound interest notes," etc. Third, by a forced loan from the people, through the issue of treasury notes, which were given a legal tender power by Congress. It has become common lately to talk glibly about the "bond holders," as if they were the only ones who furnished the money to carry on the war, and this talk apparently causes people to forget that not half the actual amount of money required by the exigencies of the struggle was obtained through the sale of bonds. The remainder was met by the people in the different ways above mentioned.

The enormous war debt that confronted us at the close of the war, has been reduced until there remains only about $750,000,000 of bonds, and almost $347,000,000 of greenbacks—a total of a little over a billion dollars yet to be paid; and this is being met as rapidly as possible. So much for the financial side of the legacy the war has left us. The obligations of the government to those who loaned her money have been met fully, and the national finances are in such excellent condition that there will be no difficulty whatever in meeting the obligations yet outstanding.

Now, to return to the other element of warfare—men. The pay of our soldiers was wretchedly small. It bore no proportion to the services rendered and the dangers incurred. In point of fact, no one considered it adequate. As the nation has the right to demand military service of her sons, the pittance given is not considered to have been an equivalent for the services they rendered, but merely in the nature of subsistence for those whose support they were—parents, wives, children, and other dependent ones—while they were called away from their usual avocations at the imperative summons of the imperiled nation. No one will have the hardihood to claim that the government did its whole duty simply by paying the wages fixed by law to the soldiers.

The obligation has always been recognized by our government of caring for those disabled or injured or invalided in its service. This obligation was recognized by the Second Congress, in 1792, in the passage of an act declaring that all soldiers disabled or rendered invalids while in actual service should be "taken care of and be provided for at the public expense." And this law of 1792 is still in force, being to day a section of the Revised Statutes.

One of the objections to service pensions to one is that the government has discharged all its stipulated obligations to the soldiers of the rebellion—that it paid them the wages fixed by law, and provided general pension laws for all those disabled or rendered invalid while in actual service. This is true as to the letter of the law. The letter has been fu filled, but not the spirit. It must be remembered that we never had a war which made such excessive demands upon the physical system of every soldier enrolled as did the civil war. The military operations covered such a vast area that the men were called on for extraordinary exertions during its campaigns, and the roll of battles which almost every regiment can show makes a longer list than all the engagements of any other war in which we ever engaged.

Then, too, all the historic battles from the Revolution downward sink to the level of mere skirmishes when compared with the giant engagements of the civil war. The per cent of losses, in killed and wounded, as can be seen from the history of hundreds of regiments, was something appalling. Add to this the strain of long marches through mud and rain, the hardships of camp life, and the inevitable mental and physical wear upon the soldier was something hitherto unprecedented in our military history.

The consequence was simply this—and any medical authority in the world will fully confirm the statement—that while thousands broke down during the continuance of the struggle, and became invalids, there was not one soldier who fought through three years of the war, even if he came out comparatively sound, but really had his constitution undermined to some extent. This did not show itself at first. From the nature of the case, it would not. But these men grew old before their time. The hardships, the anxieties, the mental strain of their army life, used up their reserve of stamina, and they became unfit for active labor much earlier in life than they otherwise would have done.

The invalid pension laws are founded upon the principle that the government must be shown that the applicant's disability is directly to be traced to the service. In the case of the men who left the army without any hospital record, this is impossible to do. At the same time, it is a moral certainty that the early breaking down of the physical system, the liability to disease, and the disabilities they now suffer, are largely the result of the deep impression made on the bodily system by the hardships of soldier life. They were like a man who uses his capital instead of living off the interest of it. The time has come when the reserve fund of physical strength, on which such inroads were made through military service, is exhausted, and the worn-out bodies succumb to every attack of disease.

The government has acknowledged, from 1792 to the present time, the man who loses his bodily health in actual military service, is properly entitled to care at its hands. It is equally as just that those who are old before their time, whose health has gone forever, as the undoubted result of their service, though they left the army apparently well, are morally as much entitled to governmental aid as though their present breakdown could be traced to wounds or to sickness contracted while in actual service. The law, however, does not recognize this. It is the intent of the service pension bill to embody this recognition in our pension legislation.

Further arguments in its favor will now be given.

TO BE CONTINUED.

WHAT THE BOYS SAY

ABOUT THE PENSION QUESTION.

Another Batch of Letters to the Blade on This All-Important Matter.

THE letters from soldiers on the pension question are as the sands of the sea in numbers. To publish all is impossible. Hence we make a selection, cut them down all we can, even to a couple of lines, and publish as many as we can find room for. All those given below were received before February 16—hence you can see how far we are behind. *Make your letters short* write only on one side of the paper; address your letter simply "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio," and *not* to the Camp Fire; give your full name, with company and regiment; tell us what pension legislation you favor, and your reasons—and don't be offended if your letter is cut down, or not published at all.

Brief Judgments.

BLOOMFIELD, Mo.—Every soldier should have a pension.—B. S. B., Co. K, 29th Ill.

WAYNE, KAN.—I favor service pension for all honorably discharged veterans.—M. H., Co. K, 3d Minn.

MORO, ILL.—I favor a service pension, and serve us all alike; equalize the bounty.—G. K., Co. D, 117th Ill.

——:—I am in favor of all soldiers being pensioned that were honorably discharged.—S. F. E., Co. D, 4th Ky.

STEAMBURG, N. Y.—I believe the time has come to pension the rest of the soldiers by passing the per diem bill.—R. H.

RICHMOND CENTER, O.—Give us a service pension; if it is to be graded according to age and disability, all the better.—W. H. B.

WHITE HALL, ILL.—I am in favor of a service pension, of any other that will do justice to the soldiers.—A. J. R., Co. B, 16th. Ill.

STONE BLUFFS, IND.—Give us restoration of arrearage, and pass Weaver's greenback equalization bill.—W. E. C., Co. K, 11th Ind. Cav.

YOUNGSVILLE, PA.—A petition to Congress to pass the per diem service pension bill was circulated. Out of 122 voters who were asked to sign it but 2 refused!—S. F., Co. C., Ind. Pa. V. I.

——:—I think the time has come now that every honorably discharged soldier should have service pension, and if disabled have pension for old wounds, too.—W. L. B., sergt. Co. F, 13th W. Va.

HARVEYVILLE, KAN.—A service pension of one cent per month for each day served. This will do justice to the soldier, remove the surplus, and equalize the circulation.—I. H., Co. E, 11th Ill. Cav.

KOSSUTH, IND.—I was in the Mexican war from Nov. 1, 1847, to July, 1848, and in the late war, and have never got a nickel by way of pension for either. I am 66 years old, and not able for manual labor.—J. R. B.

VIENNA, MO.—The per diem bill would suit all soldiers, and that should be in addition to the invalid pensions. Arrearages should be covered, and treat all invalids alike.—F. G. R., Sergt. Co. A, 1st Ark. Cav.

——: I receive a pension of $8 per month under the arrearage act, and I think it a shame to deny them work actually done. They can pension under the same act. What is right for one is right for all.—I. S., Co. F, 102d Ohio.

——:—I believe that the time has fully come when all honorably discharged ex-Union soldiers should be pensioned; and that their discharge should be their certificate; do away with so much red tape.—W. C. H., Co. C, 116th Ind.

NEW WILMINGTON, PA.—G. A. R. Post, No. 448, unanimously passed a resolution endorsing the per diem rated pension bill, paying each soldier one cent each day per month, or $10.90 more each month for three years service.—VETERAN.

MILLGROVE, IND.—I find there exists quite a feeling among the soldiers, they fearing no legislation in their behalf at this session, and they show a disposition to spoil every man that does not work for the soldiers' interest.—W. H. R., 44th Ohio, and Co. G, 8th Cav.

WEATHERLY, PA.—The per diem pension bill will be about equal justice to all. Comrades, I move that all congressmen who do not use their influence in favor of the per diem bill be laid on the shelf with Bragg and Warner next November.—J. B. D., Co. F, 143d Pa.

MT. HOLLY SPRINGS, PA.—If the government wants to do anything for the old soldier let them give us $15 or $20 a month from date of discharge—enough for a man to live on; $8 wouldn't be of much account to some men with big families.—D. L., Co. D, 16th Ohio.

MOUNTAIN COVE, W. VA.—I think it is time that Congress was pensioning all the soldiers. None who endured the hardships and privations of war but are more or less impaired, and should receive a pension to enable them to live comfortable.—E. R. E., Co. F, 2d W. Va. Cav.

BELCHERVILLE, TEX.—I am not satisfied with the present law. I see one comrade says that a good part has been done to those wounded. I can say for one that I was wounded, and have no pension yet. I think all ought to have pensions and the same bounty.—J. A. F., Co. A, 9th Tenn. Cav.

WEST MIDDLESEX, PA.—I do not like to hear comrades say they will not do anything more for the Republican party if they do not get pensions. They must consider that all the help they get is from the Republican party. It is pretty hard to fight their battles and the South and work for the soldier, too.

EDGAR, ILL.—I would suggest that Congress either pass the Service bill, or pass a law to have us all piled up and coal oil poured over us and set on fire, to get us out of the way before next Presidential election. I am a Republican, but perhaps my comrades and others will understand what I mean.—L. G. C., Co. D, 22d, Wis.

CASEY, ILL.—If every newspaper in the country would come to the front as THE BLADE is doing, and I hope will continue to do, it would be so hot for the present Congress that they would drop all other business and take up a more important subject.—Co. E, 15th U. S. R., Co. C, 5th Bat., O. V. C., and Co. H, 174th Ohio.

HEWINS, KAN.:—This Congress should pass a service pension bill, then immediately follow with the repeal of the arrearage act, and do justice to those that have had to prove their disability was contracted in the line of duty and that it has been continuous ever since to the time of pension being allowed.—S. W. P., Co. G, 10th Iowa.

QUINCY, MICH.—Congress should pass the Weaver bill. That would equalize the soldier's pay, dollar for dollar, with the bondholder. Then pass the one cent per day bill, as first proposed. That would give the soldier a pension for work actually done. Then give each soldier for bounty a land warrant on Uncle Sam's domains, according to the length of time he served.—E. T. H., Co. E, 11th Mich.

No "Government Paupers."

Comrade, do you want "Government pauper" hissed into your ou every street corner by the old and young copperheads, as it will be if the dependent bill passes? If the government will not give us something to be proud of, let us go down to our graves in silent contempt for a nation that is ungrateful to its saviors.—D. T. B., M. D., 4th Ohio.

The Justice of Service Pensions.

SAULSBURY, PA.—I am in favor of a service pension bill, although I am not a soldier; for I am sure that the soldiers have not received their just dues. I would like to see every soldier pensioned whether he received injuries in the war or not. They are failing off every year, and I think the government should look after the men that saved the Union.—J. F. K.

A Comprehensive Plan.

RIDGE, O.—You ask for soldiers' views on pensions. Here is what I think about it. Pay all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors a pension in proportion to present disability, except where caused by their own vicious habits; no distinction by reason of rank; pension all soldiers' widows, if not more than 15 years younger than the husband, at $12 per month; pension all soldiers' orphans of 16 years and under at $4 per month; pension dependent parents of deceased soldiers who leave no widow or children; repeal the arrearage act for disability contracted in service; pay service pension at rate of one cent per month for each day's service to all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors for three months and over, no distinction by reason of rank in any case—for the officers received much larger pay then on account of the responsibility resting upon them, but now that does not exist.—W. H. G.

A Very, Very Strong Illustration.

——, ——: In this pension discussion there are some points not yet touched upon. I enlisted July 11, 1862. I left a new farm of 100 acres, having sold off my cows at an average of $7 per head, and team at $100. At the close of the war I came home and found the fences all down, the land grown up to bushes and briars, while the barn had been crushed by the weight of snow upon the roof. All my farming tools were stored in the barn and of course were destroyed.

I paid $75 apiece for cows to restock the farm and everything else cost in proportion. All I received from the government during my term of service would not make up the difference in the price of stock, team and farming tools before the war and after. It costs this it cost me hundreds of dollars to subdue the brush and briars and refence the farm.

The other day I heard a man say that "——ought not to have a pension; he drinks." Well, I thought, if had stayed at home, as you did, he would not have been exposed to the temptations of army life, perhaps he would have learned a trade, accumulated property, and to day have been an honored citizen of this town. While one was at home making money the other was with McClellan in the swamps of the Chickahominy, and with Meade at Gettysburg. He came home wounded and enfeebled by the life he had lived. Perhaps he has been some failings, but the country owes him a debt they can not repay. "The time in the tide of affairs of men, which, taken at its flood, leads on to fortune," came to him while he was fighting for his country. It only comes once to most men. It has never come again to him.

I was in the army of the Potomac, in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and then went to Chattanooga with the White Star division, and went with Sherman in all the battles to the taking of Atlanta, and then the march to the sea, and north to Washington. I fortunately escaped being wounded, but found myself broken down in health, and can do but light manual labor. I get a pension of $6 per month. I applied for an increase last summer; claim rejected on the ground that I was getting all I deserved. I do not claim that I did better than my comrades. I simply did my duty as a soldier. The board of officers asked me, "do you work?" Just as though a man with no property, and a family to support, could do as he had a mind to about working. It is simply a question of root hog or die.

We are all in favor of the per diem pension bill.—F. S., Co. B, 15th N. Y.

A Parallel Drawn.

CLARENCE, ILL.:—I am in favor of a service pension for all honorably discharged union soldiers. The soldiers of the Mexican war draw pensions after they have reached of 60 years. They fought to preserve the honor of their country, or rather the Mexicans know their places—or was it for conquest, to acquire more territory? The soldiers of the Union in the late war fought, not alone to preserve the honor of the home of the country, but to preserve the life of the nation. Now, many soldiers of the Mexican war fought to destroy their mother country in the late civil war, and still they are given a pension. Should not the Union soldiers be treated as well, and even better than the soldiers of the Mexican war? I think every one should be given a pension of from $8 to $12 per month as soon as they have reached the age of 50 years, not less than $12 per month to any one who has served three years, and those that received injuries more, in proportion to the injury received; some cases reaching as high perhaps, as at present, $100 per month. But I think no distinctions should be made between officers and those of the rank and file. Let each and every one receive the same pension for the same disability or injury, be he officer or private. If an officer performed more valuable service than the private he received more pay. Now we are all citizens, all on an equality.—H. M.

A Sound, Sensible Talk.

HAMILTON, N. Y.—Instead of Congress voting to give $72 per month to those who are receiving or are entitled to $50, and $100 per month to those who now receive $72, they had better vote to give the 80,000 who are now drawing $4 per month, or less, the established sum which has for so many years stood for total disability, viz.: $8 per month. The easiest and most just method of doing if is by the "service" bill, with $8 as the minimum, and the cent per day distinction for longer service. That would cost the government not far from $150,000,000 a year now. The fact is, all politicians are afraid to go higher than that now. It is not certain that we should expect them to.

When the soldiers enlisted they were promised pensions, but $8 per month was about the highest pensions that had been paid, and very few expected more in time to come. It would seem a little hard on those drawing large pensions to say they were drawing too much, but thousands are to-day drawing higher pensions than they ever thought of, or in any way expected when they enlisted. Those veterans should, then, be satisfied with what they have until all get something; and you will not be surprised to hear me say that we do draw $12 per month, or more, should not be included in the service list. No man should have but one pension.

If the service pension would give him more than his "disability claim" he can take that and abandon the other. Five or ten years hence the list will be greatly reduced, and the cost lessened. Then zealous representatives can do more for those who made it possible for them to represent anybody, if they desire it.

There is no doubt but that the veterans deserve of this government all they ask or ever will ask, but under all the circumstances can we say the government is in a condition to give a pension to every veteran, and make most of them "double-headers," as members of mutual and co-operative insurance societies say of their assessments in these grippy times.

Would it not be very well for the old soldiers to moderate their demands about as sensible and work themselves up by each one trying to ask a little more than his neighbor, until they demand impossibilities—impossible because no politician dare champion such demands. Come down to reason—be reasonable in their demands, then say to President Harrison and the members of the 51st Congress:

"Gentlemen, this wisdom of the Republican party in national convention assembled, promised the veteran justice. You, and each of you, when you accepted your nomination promised to do your best to carry out that platform. The veterans took you at your word, and by their votes, which were the balance of power in the doubtful states and districts, gave you the power to fulfill your promises. The laboring oar now rests in your hands. The veteran, honestly dealt by, is your political friend for all time. Go back on your word—leave the veteran in the poor house, or begging bread, and the political revolution of 1892 will be greater than that of 1888. The hand writing is on the wall —Presidents, Senators and Representative may read it without an interpreter."—V. S., 76th N. Y.

A Just Criticism.

GREEN SPRING, O.—R. E. D., Co. H, 18th Ohio, of McDowell, Ill., must certainly be suffering from a severe attack of la grippe or some other torturing malady, judging from the tone of his short criticism in THE BLADE of Feb. 13.

I will pass all his spleen, save "if it was in my power no Democrat or drafted man would ever get a pension." I suppose he was the only man that fought, bled and died to save this great republic. I am a drafted man; fought and bled by the side of a Democrat; received my discharge at the close of the war; have voted the Republican ticket and supported the Republican party from John C. Fremont until the present day; but, because I am a drafted man, his powers would deprive me of a pension which my wound as justly merits as any claim which long service might demand.

While I have no love for rebels or their sympathizers, yet there were many Democrats who, as soldiers, served their country with a devotion second to none of their Republican comrades and should receive the highest commendations and gratitude of our nation.

In conclusion, I say down with this idle twaddle of "conscript," "Democrat," and unite as comrades of that grand army that achieved so great a victory and bequeathed to posterity so great a legacy, once again in a solid battle front to secure to the needy soldier that recognition from this nation which his devotion has so dearly bought. Then R. E. D. and conscript can truly shake in full fellowship in F., C. & L.—G. R.

Insane Veterans.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL.—There is a class of soldiers that have been terribly neglected by this government, that should have been cared for long ago. I have reference to insane soldiers of the late war. There are thousands of them in the county houses all over this land. Why should they not be cared for by the government for which they gave their best days?—H. C. L., Co. D, 146th Ind.

One Comrade's Plan.

HASTINGS, PA.—Here is my plan: Let every man who wore the blue from '61 to '65, write to his Congressman and Senator, demanding, first, the repeal of the arrearage act; second, the per diem service pension bill; third, an act passed to give us the difference between gold and greenbacks, when the latter were only worth 40 cents; fourth, an act passed to that being mustered in to the service is sufficient to prove a man sound when entering the army.—R. A. M. H., Co. H, 214th Pa.

Don't Like "Dependent."

TARKIO, MO.—In the trying times of April, 1871, who was "dependent"—the merchant, the farmer, the laborer, or the country, through her representatives at Washington asking her citizens to lay aside their modes of livelihood and hasten to the defence of their capital and homes? We gave them from two to five years apiece out of the prime of our manhood, and now that we are growing old we must go to them with bowed head and broken constitutions, and say "We are dependent; help us." Come, older, mark them; they may ask our help again at the polls.—COLOR CORPORAL.

His Just Dues.

SAXEVILLE, WIS.—The soldier must have assistance. He have earned it. It is his right. He came home, took up his rusty tools, started the plow he left in the furrow in the farm grown up to weeds for want of his care. He has helped to pay the bondholder; now he must be paid. What he received was scant enough to feed his wife and children; he received really nothing for his timely aid and loyalty, and has ever been a sufferer from wounds and disease, and yet under our pension laws no aid can be given him. Shame to such a government and an ungrateful people! The soldier is no no beggar. He demands his just dues.—H. L. B., Co. F, 23d Wis.

Act Before They Die!

ELLIOTT, ILL.—I am much interested in your effort to stir up Congress to its duty toward the veterans. If one could be so situated as to take a bird's-eye view of our country and at one glance see the daily processions, sable and slow-paced; could hear the solemn rolling of the "muffled drums," or see the "reversed arms," borne by gray-bearded, halting man, the

Watch these columns 2or3 weeks for a Voice from Alabama.

PORTRAIT OF HONESTY. From a Photograph.

A VOICE from Illinois.—"Your magnificent albums sell at almost every house I visit. All want one at first sight, and that makes the business. Pleasant and easy. I have made a profit of over $10 a day, from the start." A. Roderick, Springfield, Ill.

On account of a forced manufacturer's sale, 125,000 ten dollar Photograph Albums are to be sold to the people for $2.2 each. Bound in Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Plush, Gilt Edges, richly decorated inside. Handsomest albums in the world. Largest size. Greatest bargains ever known. Agents wanted. Liberal terms. Big money for agents. Any one can become a successful agent. Sells itself on sight—little or no talking necessary. Wherever shown, everyone wants to purchase. Agents take hundreds and thousands of orders with rapidity never before known. Great profits await every worker. Agents are making fortunes. Ladies make as much as men. You, reader, can do as well as any one. Full information and agents' outfit free, together with particulars and terms for our Family Bibles, Books and Periodicals. Better write us at once and see for yourself. After you know all, should you conclude to go no further, why no harm is done. Address, B. C. ALLEN & CO., Augusta, Maine.

elasticity of whose step is gone forever, he then could be impressed with the appalling fact of how fast the lines were thinning out on the "last roll call," and entering a service where pensions are unknown. I am more and more disgusted with the actions of many of our representatives in Congress, who palaver over their dishes as to some promise of everything, and accomplish nothing, nor seemingly try to carry out their promises to those who saved the country.

Personally, the dependent bill will answer my own case better than the per diem bill, I having lost a leg since the war, and being compelled by day's work to earn a living, and in accepting that I would not consider myself a pauper, by any means, as is so often quoted. And to those comrades who thus speak of this, who are evidently in better circumstances, please remember that other comrades have feelings, and such statements grate very harshly.—N. C., Co. H, 2d Ohio.

Do Justice to All.

FOND DU LAC, WIS.—I heartily agree with "Soldier's Son" in the THE BLADE, of Feb. 13, I, too, though not an old soldier, am a son of one, and I think it is time that justice was done to all those who risked their lives in the defence of our country in those terrible years of bloodshed, from '61 to '65. I have failed to meet a man who went to the war and came back as robust and strong in health as when he started. My father, now nearly entirely disabled from exposure and sickness while in the service of his government, worked for years to get a pension. At last he succeeded, but what a pension! Two dollars a month! Was that not munificent of the government that was only too willing to accept his services in those trying times? Now, too, instead of allowing that pittance to continue, they only paid up to 1884 as they claimed his disability ceased at that time. Here were all his proofs to the contrary, but it seems they were of no avail. I claim that every soldier that wore the blue should be pensioned, providing he was not a deserter, and that too, before the majority is dead. Thousands of old soldiers are living in actual poverty, and still our politicians continue to neglect them by passing a bill pensioning all honorably discharged soldiers. There is altogether too much red tape about the pension business as it now stands.—A SUBSCRIBER.

"OLD" WAR SONGS."

NUMBER XLVIX.

THE SOLDIER'S DOG.

He starts from the hearth with a low, sad whine,
As the night wind rattles the casement frame,
And looks at me with eyes that shine,
As if through tears, when I speak your name,
Yonder your empty chair, by the wall,
Stands nigh in the shadow and half in the light,
And the old clock ticks in the silent hall,
Like a shuddering pulse of the dreary night

A click of the latch at the garden gate—
Some sound like steps on the upper floors—
In the still long hours when we sit and wait,
Perhaps for your face at the open doors—
And sigh at last as the flex tree
Shakes on the pane and the fancy flies;
Then he lays his shaggy head down on my knee
And looks at me still with those wistful eyes

Does not the thought of summers dead,
E'er haunt him, following mute and slow
Down the old paths we used to trace,
In the purple mornings of long ago?
Some long spent wind in the bearded grain?
Some lightsome carol on hedge or thorn?
Lost echoes caught from the reapers' strain,
Among the laurels and shining corn?

He listens, I think, for your footsteps still,
In the depths of the woodlands gray and old,
Where the comfortless storms go sobbing at will,
And the maples are casting their tawny gold,
For the lightsome call that he used to hear
Through the sharp dead rustle of leaf and spire,
But the old ways now are lonely and sere,
And the roar of the cannon is far away.

Far, far away old Rover and we
Must wait at the shadowy hearth alone,
Haunted for aye by some tone of glee,
Some sleepless ghost of the glad days gone.
"Come close to my side," there! your rough paws so
And your brown head here—let the flex leaves
Whirl on the pane—ah! we all must know
That the heart that loves is the heart that grieves.

Away where the bellowing batteries' light
Reddens the dark of the Southern sky,
He has laid him down on the turf to-night
Thinking, Rover, of you and I.
Grim with the smoke of the trench, or worn
With the toil of the battle, yet seeing there
The lights or home through the distance burn
And the faces that watch by his empty chair.

Ah well! the hour grows dark and late;
There will come no step on the silent floor—
No hand to-night at the garden gate,
No smiling face at the open door—
The shadows deepen along the wall;
But one star shines through the falling rain;
They trust the best who have staked their all;
Lie down old friend, at my feet again!

C. F. S., Millwood, Kan., sends the above, saying: "I send you a gem that I picked up years ago. In my opinion, the whole literature of the war does not furnish its superior in touching sentiment—who was its author?" We do not know. If any reader can tell, we shall be glad to publish.—ED. BLADE.]

CURRENT COMMENT.

Luring Him On.

Life.

Servant (at sweet girl's boudoir)—Mr. Micefellow is in the parlor, miss.

Sweet Girl (throwing down a novel)—Horrors! And my hair is all down! Tell him he'll have to wait a little, as I'm in the kitchen helping mother.

Kate Chase Sprague.

Mrs. Kate Chase Sprague has reached middle age, yet time has so gently touched her that it is easy to see in her the belle of ante-bellum and war days in Washington. There are no visible gray threads in her rich brown hair, and her large hazel eyes are bright and bewitching as when she won the heart and hand of Rhode Island's brilliant young war governor, and was married amid the pomp and circumstance of war. She dresses modestly, but elegantly, and is as much at ease with herself and those about her as in the old days when the national capitol was at her feet. Her home now is at Edgeworth, the homestead near Washington which was purchased by Justice Chase a short time before his death. It is simple compared with the luxury which at times has surrounded her, but there is an air of contentment in her face which is worthier than the old smile of conquest which I have seen on her lips in other days.

The Qualities Needed By a Weather Prophet.

New York Sun.

"If Grecly had one he'd be all right."
"If he had what?"
"A trustworthy corn and a little instinct."

Teddy Ought to Know.

Boston Herald.

Theodore Roosevelt's remark that spontaneous uprisings are generally carefully worked up has a touch of humor about it, but it is none the less true. It is only another way of saying that enthusiasm is a good thing, but that it requires organization to make it effective.

Compensation.

Washington Post.

Here's some little compensation after all for being "broke."
On the principle that hunger finds a feast in crumbs,
For the stupendousness is lifted like a yoke,
And you grow refreshed and vigorous when Pay
Day
Comes.

Tis time that brings a subtle satisfaction to the heart,
When a portion is subtracted from our woes' great sums.
A dainty bride you find that eases many a grievous smart—
You really feel a man again when Pay
Day
Comes.

He Needed More Elbow Room.

New York Tribune.

A young newspaper man who was employed on a Western paper to do some department work proved to be so unsatisfactory that the editor asked him to resign. He did so and disappeared. Pretty soon the editor, in his search for new talent, noticed the brilliant work of somebody on a little back country paper that had never before amounted to anything, and determined to secure the man who did this work at any price. But what was his surprise and discomfiture to learn that it was the very same man whom he had discharged a few months before, and who, being allowed a larger swing, had developed an unexpected brilliancy.

Of Interest to the Coming Man.

Albany Times.

Will the coming woman be a fighter?

An Unkind Cut.

American Grocer.

Corker (who is no connoisseur)—"Yes, Brown, I bottled that claret myself!"
Brown—"I should think, old fellow, that you'd put some of it in cruets."

The Raid Fact.

Puck.

Now have come the days of Lent,
Season for recuperation;
That will put us in good trim
For next summer's dissipation.

None But Angels Need Apply.

Philadelphia Press.

Up in Poughkeepsie a large number of girls have resolved among themselves not to notice or receive attentions from any man who is not intelligent, honest, industrious, good-natured, cleanly in person and apparel, healthy, sober, a church member, and a total abstainer from liquor, tobacco and profanity. Those girls have a lonesome outlook before them. But they will find the sort of men they are looking for when they get to heaven.

A Rank Libel.

N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

Mr. Harrison smokes a cigar after each meal, but it is due to the administration to say that the President never thinks of puffing an imported cigar. A Connecticut-grown weed, with a Mother Hubbard wrapper, is good enough for him.

Hudson Valley Seeds

TESTED AND TRUE.
Try Orange County Field CORN.
Yields over 100 Bushels per Acre.
CATALOGUE FREE.
W. C. WAIT, Newburgh, N. Y.
Mention this paper.

Publishers' Column.

OUR "TEA SET" OFFER.

The Blade tea set, of which an advertisement will be found elsewhere, is not a toy tea set, but the pieces are all of full size. The shape and pattern are exclusive for THE BLADE. The material is of the best grade of American-made ironstone china. The decoration is in the style now so fashionable, and as good as can be found anywhere. There are eighty pieces in the set, as follows: 12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit (or sauce) dishes, 12 "individual" butter dishes, 2 cake plates, a teapot and cover, a sugar bowl and cover, a cream pitcher and a bowl.

The Toilet Set.

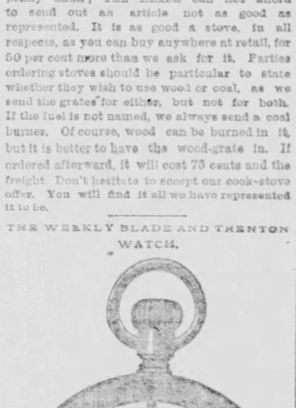
The toilet set is of the same kind of ware. It consists of twelve pieces, ordinary size of such articles. This set consists of a large water pitcher and wash-basin, slop-jar and cover, chamber and cover, soap dish, drainer and cover, small pitcher for drinking water, mug and vase. They are packed, each set in a box, and shipped direct from the factory to the purchaser, upon our order. The box can go by freight or express, but the charges are lighter by freight, though it takes longer for it to come.

Read the advertisement and note the remarkably easy terms upon which you can obtain either of these. The conditions there given are the *only* ones on which you can get them. There never was a more useful and valuable premium given with any paper than these. THE BLADE has never made as good an offer, save on the sewing machine.

THE BLADE COOK STOVE.

The Blade cook stove is a No. 8—the ordinary family size. The cut gives a good idea of its appearance. Such a stove usually retails at from $16 to $20. This is a good stove, well made, of good material and latest design; very convenient in all its parts; handsomely finished, burns wood or coal. No one be afraid to order for fear the stove is but a catch-penny affair; THE BLADE can not afford to send out an article not as good as represented. It is as good a stove, in all respects, as you can buy anywhere at retail, for 50 per cent more than we ask for it. Parties ordering stoves should be particular to state whether they wish to use wood or coal, as we send the grates for either, but not for both. If the fuel is not named, we always send a coal burner. Of course, wood can be burned in it, but it is better to have the wood-grate in. If ordered afterward, it will cost 75 cents and the freight. Don't hesitate to accept our cook-stove offer. You will find it all we have represented it to be.

THE WEEKLY BLADE AND TRENTON WATCH.



The demand for a better grade of watch than heretofore supplied with THE BLADE, has forced us to discard the watches recently offered with THE BLADE at $4.00 and $4.25, and look for something better. After a careful investigation we have decided to use the Trenton watch, which is, without doubt, the best watch for the money in the United States. It is a stem winder and stem setter. Unlike other stop watches, it can be repaired by any jeweler. For a club of 10 yearly subscribers sent at one time with $10, we will send this watch free or will send WEEKLY BLADE one year and a Trenton watch for $8.

THE BLADE, TOLEDO, O.

THE UNION OR FAMILY SCALE.

The price of this Scale is $5.00, and we offer with THE WEEKLY BLADE one year for $4.25. Useful in any family. Weighs from ½ oz. up to 240 lbs.

These scales are sent by express or freight at the expense of the purchaser. Address
THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

THE BLADE'S PORTRAIT GALLERY.

We have published ten different portrait which we offer to our readers at a price that will enable all to decorate their homes cheaply and well, viz:—

MILITARY HEROES—Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Logan.

RELIGIOUS HEROES—Charles Wesley, John Calvin and Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage.

EMINENT MEN—Robert Lincoln.

These portraits are all printed upon heavy plate paper, size 19 by 24 inches, just the size for framing for the parlor or sitting room, and good enough for any house in the land. They are all exquisite works of art, and are certain to give satisfaction. We pack them securely in pasteboard tubes and send them postpaid at the following prices:

Any one portrait	$ 25
The three divines	50
The four generals	65
The entire set of seven	1 00

Agents can do a good thing for themselves selling these pictures. Special rates made known upon application. Address
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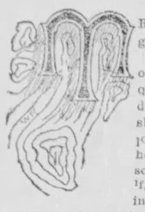
The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON . . . . EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

BESSAMER'S TRIAL.

A New Demand From His Wife—He Thinks It an Absurdity.



MR. BESSAMER had a grievance.

It was this: The wife of his bosom had requested—yes, almost demanded that he should give her an allowance each week for household and for personal expenses. "As if," he had said to her in talking it over, "as if I did not let you have all I can possibly spare from my business."

"It isn't that," she responded; "but if I knew just what I had to depend upon, I could regulate things a great deal better. There would be a feeling of independence too, that isn't possible now, when I have to ask for every cent I spend."

"Oh, so you want to be independent of your husband do you?" Mr. Bessamer said with irritation. "Things have got to a pretty pass, I should think," and he got up to walk the floor, as men do when they find it necessary to calm their emotions. It is a sort of a safety valve for them just as a rocking chair is for a woman.

"Now, Harry, do be reasonable," remonstrated Mrs. Bessamer. "My nerves are not strong this morning, and I can't endure to see you tear around in that way. But it's just like this. I never know what I can do or what I cannot. If I want a paper of pins, I must ask you for the money to get it, and if you don't happen to have it by you, or it's not just convenient, I must do without, and then go all through with the ceremony of asking again. Now if you would give me just so much, what you know you can spare, I should make calculation for the necessaries, and let the rest go until I could save something."

"Yes, and suppose you should think, as you did last fall, that a party was 'a necessary,' and frequently use up your allowance in that way, leaving nothing to live upon. What then?"

"Harry, I am not a fool," replied Mrs. Bessamer, with dignity. There was an uncomfortable silence for a moment or two, during which Mr. Bessamer continued his walk up and down a breadth of the carpet, while she rocked energetically.

"*Will* you stop your walking, Mr. Bessamer?"

"*Will* you stop your rocking, Mrs. Bessamer?"

Another silence of voices, but filled with more energetic motion.

Presently the rocking chair began to move more gently, until there was only a mild oscillatory movement, and Mrs. Bessamer spoke again.

"Harry," she said, insinuatingly. There was a dangerous softness in her tones which had its effect, as she knew it would, though he only replied by a growling "Well?"

"Suppose we change places for awhile in this way. You don't see why I don't like to come to you and ask for every cent I want to spend. Now let me handle all of the money outside of the business for a month. You are to come to me for whatever you wish to spend, and I will give it to you. Then, perhaps, you will understand something of my feelings in regard to the matter."

"That would be a pretty state of things, by Jove, but—I'll do it, and let you see how foolish you are."

The very absurdity of the thing amused him so, that all irritation was forgotten, and he put on his overcoat, laughing inwardly at this easiest of all easy methods of convincing his wife that she did not want an allowance, and that the present method in regard to funds was a great saving for her of wear and tear of mind and body. After arranging that the new order of things should set in with the morrow, he kissed his wife and set off down town.

"Women are so queer," he mused to himself; "you never know when or where they are going to break out. Whatever could have put this idea into Jennie's little head I can't, for the life of me, imagine, but I'll cure her of it. Some women might complain, those whose husbands are selfish and never give them any money without a row. I don't do that way. In fact, I never spend anything on myself, except for clothes, but it all goes for my family," and he walked on complacently petting himself for his generosity. And in truth he was a good man in his family.

The next morning he emptied his pocket-book and pockets into Jennie's lap, retaining only twenty-five cents "for car fare," he said, laughingly.

"Won't you need something more?" asked Jennie, as she deliberately counted over the money, and stored it away in her own pocket-book.

"No, indeed; what should I want it for this morning? I shall be busy until noon, and lunch will be time enough to think about the afternoon," and he went gaily off down town, satisfied that he had struck the right way to shame Jennie out of her absurd notions.

Things went on very well through the morning, for he was busy and had no occasion to spend anything. He walked home at noon, so that the 25 cent piece still remained intact.

"The thing is," he said to his wife, "you women spend so much for jimcracks, candy and such things, that you are all the time in trouble. Now if you would break yourself of that habit and do as I do, you would not always be out of change."

Jennie did not reply, but there was a gleam in her eye that meant something. She did not offer him any money and he went away whistling softly in extreme good humor with himself and the world.

The afternoon passed as the morning had done, except that he had more leisure, and spent an hour chatting with a friend to whom he offered a cigar, taking one himself—Mr. Bessamer always bought his cigars by the box—and they smoked away, discussing the while, that most interesting of all local topics, the natural gas pipeline question, abusing the trustees vigorously either for what they had or had not done, it did not seem to make much difference which. When he went home, he spent 5 cents upon the street car, reaching there with 20 cents still in his pocket.

"You see," he said triumphantly to his wife," it comes down to a matter of economy after all. I have learned not to buy all of these little things that one sees going along by the stores, as you women do, and so I don't need money to spend. Of course when it comes to the necessaries. I shall have to call upon you for money to pay for them, and I suppose you will give it to me, as I do to you."

"Of course," was Mrs. Bessamer's reply.

The next morning she handed him a dollar and asked him to send up some meat for lunch, "and keep the change, Harry," she added airily; "you may need it for some little thing that you don't think of now."

She was as sober as a Judge of the Supreme court while speaking, and he slipped the dollar into his pocket, with a humorous smile as he remembered how often he had said this to her when giving her money to buy house supplies.

He found the change very convenient that very afternoon.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Emily S. Bouton.

ENAMELLED GLASS PAINTING.

This mode of decoration is best suited to colored glass, although it also can be employed on plain whiteglass. In either case with a little skill, combined with the care which should accompany all such experiments, very pleasing resultsmay be obtained. In any case the artist must make sure that the glass has been previously tempered, in order to bear the heat of a second firing in the the kiln. The manner of procedure is as follows: The outlines of the design should be first drawn with a fine brush, in Chinese white. The worker may, if desired, draw the pattern on strong white paper, and after gumming it slightly to the wrong side of the article to be decorated, trace the pattern over it. When the outlines are thoroughly dry, the entire design must be coated with white enamel paint, which has been mixed with a few drops of turpentine oil, on a glass palette, using a glass rubber for the purpose. Only a small quantity at a time should be prepared, as the mixture soon dries, and care should be taken that it be perfectly smooth, clear, and about the consistency of cream. It is advisable to work with a full brush and only go once over each surface, as the colors should be laid on as thickly and evenly as possible. After a large surface has been painted, the irregularities which remain, may be carefully removed by scratching off the surplus paint. To remove any little blisters that may appear, a pointed instrument may be used.

In order to prevent the color running over the outlines, the glass should be held horizontally, and slightly turned from side to side whilst drying. After the completion of the first coating process, the glass must be fired for further painting. The intended design may now be traced with pencil and black transfer paper upon the white enamel coating. Now paint all the shadows with glass colour-black, which should be sufficiently thinned with turpentine, to prevent its being too dark, in which event it would look muddy after firing. If convenient to a kiln, the worker will find it a great help to have her glass fired again at this stage; but if impracticable, it should be placed near a fire, or in the rays of the sun for three or four days before proceeding. The quicker this drying takes place, and the more seldom the colors are retouched the more successful the painting. Before the last firing the colored portions of the design are applied with a finely pointed brush which has been dipped in a mixture of turpentine oil, spirits of turpentine and clove oil. These colors should not be applied too thickly, or they will crack in firing; nor must the brush contain too much oil. If a piece of work does not look right after the last firing, it may safely be repainted and refired, as a good glass will stand firing from three to four times.

FANCY WORK AND HOUSE DECORATION.

A PRETTY LAMP SHADE.—If you know how to make the old-fashioned pointed tape trimming, or can persuade some one to show you, it will not be much work to make a lovely shade for your parlor lamp. By a little practice, however, the trimming may be easily made. Suppose yellow to be selected as the color for the shade. Five shades of ribbon (or, if your lamp be very large, six), an inch wide will be required. Beginning with a darker shade, turn the ribbon to form points, lying alternately up and down, as follows:

Arrange the five rows of ribbon, thus pointed, one above the other, fastening the points together so as to form open diamonds, the lightest shade being at the top. Run an elastic on the wrong side of the upper row to make it fit the porcelain lamp shade. Now take a strip of *crepe* of one of the shades of ribbon, gather it quite full and line the shade with it, allowing it to fall about three inches below the ribbon, so as to form a flush. The edge may be numbered or pinked. This *crepe* lining softens the light, and makes a pretty filling for the open diamond space, which otherwise would look bare.

NAIL KEG PEDESTAL.—Stain a nail-keg with ebony, and gild the hoops thickly. Place something heavy in the bottom of the keg to prevent its tipping easily. Nail to the top of the keg a circular piece of wood, which has been covered with plush or velvet, and which should be large enough to project slightly beyond the keg. You now have a pedestal suitable to stand in the corner of a room. Place a large vase or ornament upon it.

A PICTURE UPON CELLULOID.—I would like to describe a little picture I have made, as I never saw or heard of any like it. It may give some one else an idea. I took a piece of celluloid 7x9 and marked off a margin of at least an inch. In the center I painted a little scene. For the mat I took a sheet of coarse sand-paper and bronzed it. Now about bronzing, let me tell you, who have never had much experience, put white varnish on smoothly with a bristle brush. When it is nearly dry powder on the bronze. I took a scrap of new Canton flannel, rolled it in a pad or bunch and "patted" it. For the frame proper I took a piece of pasteboard 11x13, or thereabouts, marked off a margin, covered nicely with white satin, brought it over to the back, and glued it firmly. The corners are cut to look like the joining of a picture frame. A few feet away it looks like a beveled frame. After the satin was secured, I glued the bronzed sand-paper on; then with the least little bit of glue in each corner of celluloid—not the margin—I fastened my celluloid. The colors are all delicate. In the left side of the picture are the darkest tones; a dark brown church, some bushes, trees, fence, some snow, etc. Farther back is a house on the bank of a lake—I suppose. The evening sun has just set leaving a golden light near the horizon and tinging the clouds with crimson. Along the low banks some coarse weeds are standing, brown and dead, for it is a winter scene. The windows of the church reflect the light of the dying day. Above, the sky is a delicate blue. I am tired of heavy dark colors in oil painting, I haven't one in my collection where green and burnt sienna predominate. This little scene I have described is as dainty as water color or pastel.

I made a cute calendar. The pad was about 1½x3¾. I took a circle of celluloid about 6 inches in diameter, white, and cut an opening for the calendar about 1-16 of an inch smaller than the calendar. Around it, carelessly, is a branch of apple blossoms, with brown birds in different positions. One saucy little fellow is peeping over the top. His bill actually extends over the printing. You can manage to make it by cutting it in paper first. This is mounted on a circular piece of pink plush on pasteboard, with an edge of tinsel cord, and hung by a pink ribbon. I have made several small ornaments in the shape of a violin, with velvet neck and tail pieces, strings of tinsel cord. Will send pattern to any one who wishes it, if you send postage.—Mrs. S. D. Morris, Seward, Neb.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; t t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; ch sh st, close chain stitch; d ch st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st., crossed treble stitch; pi st, shell stitch; o sh st, open shell stitch; tr, treble; sh c, short crochet.

The following is a much longer pattern than we like to use, but to please the many who desire it, it is inserted. It was so carefully prepared by our correspondent as to form an additional inducement.

CLOVER LEAF TIDY.—Use red and white knitting cotton, No. 10, and common steel knitting needles—cast one stitch. 1st row—t o—k 1. 2d row—t o—k 2, 3d row—t o—k 1—o—k 1—o—k 1. 4th row—o—k 1—p 3—knit the rest. 5th row—o—k 3—o—k 1—o—knit the rest. 6th row—o—s 2—p 5—knit the rest. 7th row—o—k 5—o—k 1—o—knit the rest. 8th row—o—k 3—p 7—knit the rest. 9th row—o—k 7—o—k 1—o—knit the rest. 10th row—o—k 4—p 9—knit the rest. 11th row—o—k 9—o—k 1—o—knit the rest. 12th row—o—k 5—p 11—knit the rest. 13th row—o—k 11—o—k 1—o—knit the rest. 14th row—o—k 6—p 13—knit the rest. 15th row—o—k 13—o—k 1—o—knit the rest. 16th row—o—k 7—p 15—knit the rest. 17th row—o—k 8—s and b—k 11—n rest plain. 18th row—o—k 8—p 13—knit the rest. 19th row—o—k 9—s and b—k 9—n—knit the rest. 20th row—o—k 9—p 11—knit the rest. 21st row—o—k 10—s and b—k 7—n—knit the rest. 22d row—o—k 10—p 9—knit the rest. 23d row—o—k 11—s and b—k 5—n—knit the rest. 24th row—o—k 11—p 7—knit the rest. 25th row—o—k 12—s and b—k 3—n—knit the rest. 26th row—o—k 12—p 5—knit the rest. 27th row—o—k 13—s and b—k 1—n—knit the rest. 28th row—o—k 13—p 3—knit the rest. 29th row—o—k 14—s and b—knit the rest. 30th row—o—k 14—p 2—knit the rest. 31st row—o—k 15—s and b—knit the rest. 32d row—join in the red—o—p across. 33d—34th—35th—36th and 37th rows—n—knit plain. 38th row—p across. 39th row—n—p—o—k 2 tog—k 2 tog—making 12 holes—knit last stitch. 40th row—n—p across. 41st row—n—k plain. 42d row—n—k plain. 43d row—n—p across. 44th and 45th rows—n—k plain—46th row—n—p across. Repeat from * twice. Next row—n—k 1—You now have 2 stitches on the needle, which you cast narrow. Four of these pieces sewed together form a square, with leaves in the center. Four squares make a pretty tidy, with a scollop crocheted around the edge as a finish. Hope I have made this plain enough.—CARRIE BUTLER, ARTHURS.

Mrs. R. C., Lancaster—Your best way would be to make your decorative articles now. "Fancy Work and House Decoration" (No. 3) will give you descriptions of many pretty things, with table of prices, etc. Send 25 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., and get one.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LIFE NOT A FAILURE.—I have stood "just outside" for a long time not venturing to say a word until I read "Life Not a Failure" from the pen of our editor, and as it was a subject on which I had thought a great deal, I determined to write a few words. I think that to many of us who are housekeepers and mothers the thought often comes, "I have no time to improve myself; it is just work, work from morning until night." In our youth we were all castle-builders. All had a fairy ship at sea freighted with the bright hopes and possibilities that our youthful fancy could picture. But to none of us, perhaps, has come the realization of our fond day dreams. Our castles may have crumbled into dust and our ships, like the fairy phantom ship of old, may still hang in the horizon never advancing toward us. Our realizations have, perhaps, been very different from our anticipations, yet for all this we have no right to sit idly down and say "life has been a failure."

God has placed us right here in this world, He has given us our work to perform, and He will surely require us to render an account unto Him for the way we have used our time and talents. Then let us make ourselves as refined and cultivated as possible. Read good books, train our children thoroughly in the true principles of Manhood and Womanhood. Uphold everything noble and good in society, and shun the ignoble and evil, and resolve that our lives shall not be failures, and bravely do "whatsoever our hands find to do."—MARGUERITE.

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS.

If mothers would converse and advise with one another—have a "Mother's society"—I think it would be the means of helping us along wonderfully. There are so many mothers who do not trust their children, are afraid to confide their secrets with them, and what is the result. It is that your children will trust their secrets with any one else rather than with their mother. Make your boys and girls companions and they will never be afraid to converse and ask advice about their business affairs, and if they are in any trouble of whatever nature, their mother is the first one to know it.

Our dear sons have souls to save as well as our daughters, and if we were to look after our boys more, there would be no need of ever hearing that sad song, "Oh, where is my boy to night." Let us think of this and take it to us in prayers.

Never trust your little ones with just the exact change when you send them to the store; give them more than what the goods might cost and notice how pleased and proud they are that they can be trusted with so much money. Never hide your money from your boy, or any article that they might be tempted to take, for children should have temptations, and then they soon will learn how to withstand them.—MRS. J. C. V., Toledo, O.

Mothers, take care of your girls. Beware what kind of company you allow them to keep, and yet while you are careful as to this, do not keep them at home just for fear they will meet some one who is not just as he should be. I believe a mother can be too strict with her girls, just as well as not strict enough. Now, I am not a girl, so I can take none of this advice home to myself. I expect boys and young men who read this, will say just what I have said before, "I am a boy." Just a word to the boys: When you go to see a girl, be sure she is a nice, good, upright girl, and if a professed Christian, so much the better. Your name will never be tarnished in any way, and you will always be in good society.—FRANK MCDANIEL.

I know you will say that "charity begins at home," but you won't miss anything you may send, and it will be gratefully received by those destitute mothers who write to the Household for help. A barrel and box was sent from this place to a Kansas farmer, the supply consisted of underwear, shoes and stockings, and little dresses all cut and nice (change all around for the family, and it all happened by "John's wife" writing to THE BLADE. It won't pay to send only old, worn out garments far away, but send articles you will not be ashamed of, and which are comfortable.—A SUBSCRIBER, Sunbury, O.

Why is it we hear so little from the girls of the HOUSEHOLD? While the elderly ladies are growing confidential over their knitting work and the babies, certainly our girls ought to be able to say some real pleasant things to each other—something out of our own experience, that will brighten, encourage, and give information to others, and I will say this to you: There are some grand, noble gentlemen in the world, whose respect and esteem it is worth while to go to some trouble to gain. But never allow any man to feel that you are flattered by his attentions. If you are not such a perfect lady, that it is an honor for any gentleman to claim your acquaintance, you will be making your life what it should be. Be as cordial and amiable to your friends as you like. But bear this in mind: Nothing will disgust an intelligent man more than for a young lady to show by her actions that she is anxious for his attentions and admiration. She may amuse him for an evening, but will not gain his lasting regard.

Now, do you want to know the grand secret by which Samson may be shorn of his strength? Here it is: Have that within yourself that is so pure and honorable and holy, such beautiful symmetry of character, that you compel the respect and admiration of all.—S. S.

Girls, be quiet, sensible, and ladylike when with young men. Don't giggle and act childish. Should a young man see you home don't keep telling him "you are sorry to put him to so much trouble," that you "fear he will get tired after working all day," that you were "not afraid to come home alone," etc. If he had not wanted to see you home he would not have asked you. When a young man asks for your company to any place of amusement, give a direct answer yes or no at once. After going with a young man never make remarks about him. You accepted his company, and if you were disappointed in him keep it to yourself; perhaps he, too, was disappointed in you. Never go with a man who keeps evil company, for you would fail to lift him up, and he would in all probability pull you down; and *never*, NEVER go with a man that drinks, be he ever so pleasant; be an old maid a thousand times over rather than be a drunkard's wife.—"A FRIEND TO THE GIRLS."

INQUIRIES.

Will some one inform me how to make a nice dressing gown for a gentleman? Material used, etc?—MRS. J. B.

Will some one tell me through the HOUSEHOLD how to color light brown tips black, and how to curl them again, if it can be done?—SISTER SUE.

In BLADE of December 26, was a recipe for a Christmas cake, but the sugar was omitted. Will the contributor please say how much was to be used?—A SUBSCRIBER.

Can any one tell me where I can get mock peach seed? I have never seen it advertised in any catalogue and do not know where they can be obtained? If any one will send me a few I will return stamps for postage.—MRS. W. C. MATHEW, West Plains, Howell Co., Mo.

Will some lady send directions for crocheted infant's sacque? Also some advice about dress and care of infants.—MRS. W.

If any readers of THE BLADE have reading matter they do not care for, magazines, papers, etc., and will mail some to me, I will pay all postage, and the reading would be most gratefully received.—MRS. E. S. DICKINSON, Gem, Brown Co., South Dakota.

Will some one please describe a "coru" sociable?—LENORE.

Will some one tell how and what is used in making "clay work," employed in decorating?—BLADE READER.

If Mrs. Ben. J. Talbot, Stockton, Kan., will send postage, I will send her moss from here. It is beautiful, and there are several kinds. This offer is open to all the HOUSEHOLD, provided postage is sent.—MRS. CALLIE ALHWORTH, Spikenard, Jackson county, Oregon.

Will some one recommend something that will remove yellow spots from silk embroidery on flannel, which has turned yellow from lying?—MINNIE.

Will some one please send a recipe for doughnuts made with baking powder?—EMILY.

Will some of the HOUSEHOLD please give recipe for Washington pie?—A BLADE READER.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

If "a widow" will, when she first gathers her beans, hull them, grease good with lard and spread out in the sunshine a day or two before putting them away, she will not be troubled with bugs. I would like to hear from "A Teacher." Address C. BRASHEAR, Bruce, Barren Co., Ky.

Mrs. M. A: The Chicago Woman's Exchange is upon Wabash avenue. Write there and inquire their terms to contributors and their rules. You will receive all needed information. There is always a charge for membership in exchanges of either one or two dollars a year, but which it is in Chicago we are unable to tell you. That payment will enable you to send for sale such articles as they are willing to receive.

Mrs. Wm. E. Jefferson, Michigan: The editor is glad that you are alive to the great question of Suffrage for Women. Miss Anthony's address is Rochester, N. Y. She is so well known that street and number do not matter.

The *Woman's Tribune* is published during the winter months at Washington D. C. Its editor is Mrs. Clara B. Colby. The *Woman's Journal*, another strong suffrage paper, and one of the oldest and best, is published in Boston. Letters will reach either by simply addressing the papers.—ED.

I would like to give "Mrs. B. F. C." the benefit of my experience in the care of milk, churning, etc., in the winter. After straining the milk, set the crock in a pan of warm water on the stove, and leave it there until the steam raises briskly from the milk, then it is hot enough. Take it off the stove and set away to cool. The atmosphere of the room in which milk is kept should be as pure as possible. This can be done to a great extent by having a window in the room and opening it every day the weather will permit. I think the milk from strippers is more apt to cause the trouble you speak of than that from fresh milch cows. I have treated the milk of the former in the way spoken of above, all winter, and the cream when at the right temperature will churn to butter in from 10 to 20 minutes, when usually under the old way it would take half a day to churn.

Cream for table use is better not to be heated, as the heating process tends to toughen the cream and it does not so readily dissolve. Please try this way; I think you will be pleased with the result.—SYMPATHIZER.

With the editor's permission, I would like to tell Mrs. M. M. L that I have had some experience in making fruit cake, and that I never have any trouble with it. I think it requires a little more flour than light cake, and if she does not stir the fruit in till just before putting the cake in the pans it will never sink to the bottom.

And to the lady that inquired how to bake her light bread so that it would have a soft crust I will say that if, after it is in the pans ready for the oven, she will cover the tops of the loaves with butter or sweet lard the crust will be nice and soft. It is well to cover the pans over, while baking, part of the time, especially if the oven is too hot.

Then, again, if it is quite proper to speak of cake, bread and roaches in the same breath, I will tell the lady that inquired a short time ago how to kill roaches, that I cleared my house of the vermin by putting fresh cucumber peelings on shelves, tables and in closets, and wherever they went, for a short time, and they soon disappeared. This is a well known remedy, and I think I found it in THE BLADE. If the lady cannot wait for the cucumber season to come, perhaps she will like to try borax, powdered, and mixed in corn meal. This is a good remedy, too, and will either kill them or cause them to leave. She should also destroy every egg found.—MRS. J. W. HATCH, Daytana, Fla.

"A. W.," Union Village: Thanks for your kind letter. Good wishes, such as you send us, are always fully appreciated.—ED.

RECIPES.

WHITE CAKE.—Whites of 6 eggs, ½ cupful butter; 2 cupfuls of sugar; ½ cupful new milk; a bit of salt, ½ cupful of flour, (more if needed), and flavor with vanilla.—MRS. A. H.

PEACH CAKE.—Bread dough enough for a loaf, in a 1 egg, ½ cupful sugar and 2 tablespoonfuls butter into it; add enough flour to roll out, ¼ an inch thick, put in the baking pan, let rise till right, peel peaches, halve them and cover the dough with them. Make a sweet custard, cover the peaches with it, bake in moderate oven; when cold cut in squares, dredge sugar and serve. Can use apples instead of peaches, only slice them about ¼ of an inch.

PICKLED RED CABBAGE.—Cut them up in long, fine strips, sprinkle salt through them, put in a sack and hang up until it stops dripping. Put it in a jar with cloves and black peppers; pack as tightly as you can, then cover with good cold vinegar. Will send some more if you care to have them.

A SCOTCH WOMAN.

We shall be glad to have them.—ED.

BREAD.—At dinner time take ½ gallon crock of warm water, dissolve 1 cake yeast in it, stir white flour in until some thicker than pancake batter, let stand in warm place till bedtime, (the crock will be half full right); then sour half in bread-pan of white flour, and the rest, ½ in each of rye and Graham pans; put a handful salt in each and 1 qt. warm water (sugar in the Graham if you like). Stir as stiff as you can with spoon. Let stand over night where it is warm, then mix in flour until it will not stick together. Let rise 3 hours, then mold into loaves and let rise until they fill the pan. Bake 1 hour in hot oven. Be sure to eat some rye loaf while hot. Bread is nicer, if when making with home made yeast, you wash the cooked yeast in a milk strainer, and throw away the corn meal, using the water only.—NELL.

To make Graham light bread the following recipe can be relied upon: 1 pint light bread sponge; 1 pt of warm water; 1 tablespoonful sugar; 1 teaspoonful salt; 1 pt wheat bran; 3 pts wheat flour; mix thoroughly, knead and add flour until it does not stick to the hands. Then set it to raise in a warm place, until real light. Then knead down. When raised the second time, mold out in bread pans, single loaves. When real light, bake in a moderate oven, one hour. This recipe makes two loaves. The above makes better bread than when graham flour is used. Please report success.—LOUISA OMA, CONIA, Kansas.

FOR CROUP.—Grate or scrape nutmeg, and mix with tallow or oil, and apply it to a woolen cloth and put it on the throat and breast. It will change the breathing in a short time.—MIRIA MCGILL.

AN EASY WAY TO PICKLE CABBAGE.—Take small sound heads, or hearts of large ones; cut in quarters, leaving part of stem on each. Place in kettle, pour on boiling water, and cook until just done, but when salted as for the table. Lift out carefully and set to drain, and while it does so put good vinegar on to get just hot, not boil. To each quart of vinegar put 1 teaspoonful of whole allspice, 1 of whole cloves, 2 teaspoonful of mustard, ½ teaspoonful of black pepper, ½ teaspoonful cayenne, ½ teacupful of sugar. Pack the cabbage in a jar, being careful not to break pieces, pour over hot vinegar and spices, cover close and set away. Ready to use in 48 hours, and will keep months.

Another way: Shred the cabbage very fine. Pack in jar in layers, using some salt, plenty of pepper; cover with cold vinegar, set away a couple of weeks, then try it.—JEANIE.

Everybody Knows

That at this season the blood is filled with impurities, the accumulation of months of close confinement in poorly ventilated stores, workshops and tenements. All these impurities and every trace of scrofula, salt rheum, or other disease may be expelled by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best blood purifier ever produced. It is the only medicine of which "100 doses one dollar" is true.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

BREWSTER, VA.	Laura Watkins
J F Sergent	Elda Watkins
T L Sergent	Lillie Griffin
E P Powers	Edith Rogers
DOLAND, S. D.	Wilton Day
Laura V Matteson	Frankie Kennedy
Ida May Matteson	ELIZA, ILL.
John Allen Matteson	George Peck
George S Matteson	Helen Peck
ANDOVER, KAS.	Billie Peck
W C Clark	Margie Peck
Willie Easton	John Johnson
Margie Easton	Charlie Hank
Emma James	Sallie Myra West
Ada James	Lovejoy Bunting
Maggie Fuller	Rachel Bunting
Nellie Fuller	Jack McNivin
Elvira Fuller	Friend Murlin
Sylvia Waggoner	Jesse Bogart
Louis Waggoner	Amos Mills
Rosa Harrison	Bill Brown
Lydia Hayden	Dick Glancey
Liza Hayden	Billie Coulter
Anna Hammond	John Thompson
FAIRBAULT, MINN.	Tommy Thorpe
Belle Harshaw	Joe Brown
Sadie Stateler	Charlie Thompson
Rose Dorhman	Charlie Peck
Gracie Lippert	Olive Pride
Arthur Mattson	Clara Ropp
Archie Rockenbach	Allie Reed
William Harshaw	Tommy Reed
Albert Hulse	Dudie Reed
AUSTIN, MINN.	Josie McGee
Allie Simpson	Sadie Jones
Grace Trowbridge	

Names this week, 64. Total, 29,000.

The above embraces all names received up to March 14

Written for the Blade Young Folks.

MISS BABY SPIDER.

KARA KANAWHA.

POOR baby spider!
There stood beside her
A horri le wall to climb;
All sand and gravel,
And she must travel
Such a wee mite at a time.

Brave baby spider—
What woes betide her,
What jostles and bumps and falls.
But true and trusty,
On brown legs dusty,
Solemnly up she crawls.

Dear baby spider—
Fresh failures tried her
But, rubbing her forehead gray:
"I'm bound to learn it;
Now, I'll begin it
A different sort of way."

The Baby Spider,
(A grain would hide her)
She managed, as you're alive,
One foot, demurely,
While most securely
She held the other five!

And Baby Spider—
My eyes descried her
On top, in the grass, quite free;
With web spread round her
Some young gnats found her
And tarried with her to tea!

For the Young Folks.

PLAYING "MAKE-BELIEVE."

MRS. "H. P." WRITES A LETTER TO MRS. "P. J. W."

FANNY and Carrie were two little girls, about 12 years old, who played "make believe" that they were keeping house at some distance from each other. Fanny was "Mrs. H. P.," because she thought those were such pretty letters to make, and Carrie was "Mrs. Perry Josephus W.," because that was such a nice sounding name. Being very dear friends, these two ladies were supposed to keep up a correspond ence with each other. We give a specimen of their letters, which will be readily understood by any little girl who has ever played "make believe:"

DEAR MRS. W.:—As Mr. P. is going to the P. O., I thought I would write you a few lines, but I do not think I will have time to write much, as Mr. P. says if my letter is not ready when he is that he will not wait for it; men do act so, sometimes. I see he is getting on his clean collar, so I suppose he will want me to tie his necktie for him—yes, he does—well, I suppose I must stop and do it, but it does seem as if I could never get time to write this letter, and I do believe he is hurrying all he can. I ought to have commenced writing sooner, but I did not know that he was going so soon; he never says anything about going till the very last minute and then he asks if I have any letter to send. I hope you reached home safely last night, though you must have been very tired after your long trip. The baby was all right, I hope. I suppose its grandmother would have looked after it if it had cried. Oh, dear! I have to help Mr. P. on with his coat—the snow is three feet deep here. I went out sleighriding yesterday, and had a splendid time. We have a horse and sleigh, but do not use it as much as we might, for there is no one but Mr. P. to hitch up the horse, and he says he is not going to dirty his hands and clothes around an old horse and sleigh as long as he can go afoot; but I guess the truth is, he is too lazy. He would have jumped at the chance to take me to ride two or three years ago, but it is different now, very different. If your baby has the colic, soak his feet (play they wash's broke off) in hot mustard water, and wrap it up in hot flannel. Make it hot enough to burn it, but pretty hot, and put it to bed, and most always by morning it will be well. Mr. P. is hunting for his hat now. I know where it is, but I am going to let him hunt so I can have a chance to finish this letter—there, he has found it, so I must say good-bye, with love,

Your devoted friend,

MRS. "H. P."

P. S.—Kiss the baby for me, and remember me to "Mr. W." I guess Mr. P. is too mad about his hat to want to send any word from him. Write soon.

THE LITTLE PINE TREE.

BY B. K. H.

The little pine tree stood alone in a great forest. Alone, because as far as the eye could reach not another of its kind could be seen. The maples and birches and oaks, besides many other trees and shrubs, were covered with beautiful green leaves, while the little pine tree had nothing but needles.

In the spring they put on their robes of delicate green, which faded and fell away in the autumn, and in the winter they stood naked and gray, knee-deep in the snow, but the little pine tree never changed.

"Alas! all my neighbors and friends have green leaves. I alone am covered with ugly needles. No one can love me. No one can touch me without being hurt," said the little tree, with a mournful sigh.

Then, by way of pastime, it set to thinking about what it would like, in case its wishes could be granted, as sometimes happened to people in fairy tales.

"I would like to have leaves of gold," said the little tree, aloud—"that's what I'd have."

When the little tree awoke next morning its needles had all disappeared, and from top to bottom it was covered with fine golden leaves. When the sun peeped down among the trees, he scarcely knew it. It was so changed, not only in outward appearance, which is not always reliable, but its very heart was changed, too, and instead of modesty and sadness, was filled with pride and vanity.

"How beautiful I am," said the little tree, drawing itself to its full height and looking down upon itself admiringly. "In the whole forest there is not another tree with golden leaves."

And it fairly spurned the green moss at its foot, as a setting altogether too common for so rich and fine a tree.

So it stood all day, growing prouder every hour, till darkness again settled down upon the forest.

In the dead of night, when all were sunk in sleep, there came a wicked robber who, no doubt, had seen the treasure by daylight, stealthily through the wood. He wore a long, white beard and carried a great sack upon his back, into which he thrust all the golden leaves, when he had stripped them from the tree. Then he hurried from the wood as stealthily as he came.

When the little tree awoke in the morning it found itself poor and naked, for the robber had not spared a single leaf. Shrinking from the sight of its neighbors, it bemoaned its loss in piteous accents.

Gladly would it have fled from the spot, or sunk into the ground for very shame, if it had been possible. Often during the day, when the maples and chestnuts whispered to each other, as they had been accustomed to, the little tree imagined they could be whispering of nothing else than its own folly and misfortune, and hung its head and was very miserable.

At length it bethought itself of another wish, and concluded that nothing could be nicer than leaves of glass.

Sure enough, in the morning its branches were covered with leaves of glass, clear as crystal. Nothing could have been prettier.

Often in the winter the trees had been covered with ice; but they had never presented so brilliant an appearance, and the little tree could not restrain its delight.

"How bright I am, and how my leaves sparkle in the sun! there isn't in the whole forest a tree as brilliant as I am," said the little tree.

Pretty soon there came a cloud over the face of the sun—a great storm of wind and rain was gathering its forces and came toward the forest. The wind caught the trees by their strong arms and tried to wrest them from the earth. They bent and swayed, and tossed their arms to and fro, but kept a firm footing in the ground.

The little birds in their nests among the branches felt quite safe, while they were rocked in the tree-tops, and held the dainty eggs close pressed under their pretty wings.

Strong oaks that had withstood the storms of centuries stubbornly refused to bend, creaked in their giant branches, and when the storm had passed stood as stately as before.

But, alas! for the little tree, with its leaves of glass; they lay scattered and broken upon the ground, every one.

Then, though it lifted up its voice and lamented its sad fate, the little tree said:

"I see now that I did wrong in wishing for leaves of gold and of glass, because I wanted to be finer and richer than my neighbors, and I have been severely punished. If I only had green leaves like the rest, I should be perfectly content."

Next morning, sure enough, its branches were covered with tender green leaves, and the little tree, which expected to be very happy because it wore a dress of the prevailing fashion, laughed for joy.

Its delight, however, was of but short duration, for before night there came an old goat through the woods with her two hungry kids at her side. She was looking for something for her supper, and, spying the little tree, with its tender green leaves, she hurried to the spot, and without as much as saying "By your leave," she ate it off to the stump.

That night, when the little tree went to sleep, it wished for nothing so much as to have its own needles back again. Everything else brought only trouble and sorrow.

Once more its wish was gratified, and it looked in the morning, arrayed in all its pine needles, exactly as though nothing had happened.

Some of the trees laughed and tossed their heads, and the little pine tree laughed, too, and the birds sang, and the squirrels chased up and down the tree trunk in their mad frolic, light breezes stole on tiptoe through the woods, bright patches of sunshine flecked the moss and in all its life the little tree had not known such perfect content.—[R. K. H.

BEES FOR BOYS.

To be a beekeeper one must have hives and other things. Of course, these can be bought cheaper than they can be made, if time is counted, but we are not counting time in this winter interval, between chores looking rather after experience. Practice in joining makes handy boys and handy men. To know how to use tools leads to the saving of many dollars in any walk in life.

To make a hive, use any kind of boards five-eighths of an inch thick to an inch in thickness. The hive is only a box, and the inside dimensions should be 18⅝ inches long, 14¼ inches wide and 9⅛ inches deep. On the upper edge of the end pieces cut a rabbet or shoulder three-quarters of an inch deep and half the thickness of the end pieces. Give the tops of the four pieces an outward bevel of an inch, and the bottoms of the same pieces an inward bevel of an inch.

When these pieces are nailed together we have the four walls of the brood chamber. Make another like chamber like the first. This will fit on to the top of the first, or the first to this, owing to the outward bevel on the top of one and the inward bevel on the bottom of the other. These beveled edges keep the two chambers together, and prevent the ingress of rain.

The bottom of the hive is not attached to the hive. It may be another box, a flat box like those in which glass is shipped, or it may be a board or plank with cross pieces nailed to the ends to prevent warping, and should extend six inches in front of the entrance to the hive. The entrance

Talmage's Sermon.

TALMAGE PREACHES TO THE YOUNG

How the Waywardness of the Boys and Girls Breaks Old Hearts—The Duty of Parents to Their Children.

BROOKLYN, March 16.—The following sermon was preached this morning by Dr. Talmage in the Academy of Music, in which his church is worshipping during the rebuilding of the Brooklyn Tabernacle. After expounding a chapter describing Absalom's carriage toward his father, David and the singing of an appropriate hymn, Dr. Talmage announced as his text the words, "A foolish son is the heaviness of his mother." Proverbs x. 1. He said:

All parents want their children to turn out well. However poorly father and mother may have done themselves, they want their sons and daughters to do splendidly. Up to forty years of age parents may have ambitions for themselves, after that their chief ambitions are for their children. Some of the old-time names indicate this. The name of Abner means "his father's lamp." The name of Abigail means "her father's joy." And what a parental delight was Solomon to David, and Samuel to Hannah, and Joseph to Jacob! And the best earthly staff that a father has to lean on is a good son, and the strongest arm a mother has to help her down the steep of years is that of a grateful child. But it is not a rare thing to find people unfilial, and often the parents are themselves to blame. Aged persons sometimes become querulous and snappy, and the children have their hands full with the old folks.

Because people are old they have no right to be either ungentlemanly or uncleanly. There are old people so disagreeable that they have nearly broken up some homes. The young married man with whom the aged one lives stands it because he has been used to it all his life, but the young wife, coming in from another household, can hardly endure it, and sometimes almost cries her eyes out. And when the little children gather in the house they are afraid of the venerable patriarch, who has forgotten that he ever was a child himself, and cannot understand why children should ever want to play "hide and seek," or roll hoop, or fly kites, and be boisterous, or be ordered from the nursery, and shouts with an expenditure of voice that keeps him coughing fifteen minutes afterwards, "Boys! stop that racket!" as though any boy that ever amounted to anything in the world did not begin life by making a racket.

While children must always be dutiful, I sympathize with all young people who have disagreeable or unprincipled old folks around the house. Some of us, during all of our memories, know that it is possible, after sixty or seventy or eighty or ninety years of age, for the old to be kind and genial; and the grandest adornment of a home is an aged father and an aged mother, if the process of years has mellowed them. Besides that, if your old parents are hard to get along with now, you must remember there was a time when they had hard work to get along with you. When you were about 5 or 7 or 10 or 12 years of age what a time they had with you! If they had kept a written account of your early pranks and misdoings it would make a whole volume.

That time when you gave your little sister a clip; that time when you exported the depth of a jar of sweetmeats for which you had no permission; that harvest you gave the whole village with your jack-knife; that pluckingfrom the orchard of unripe fruit; that day when, instead of being at school, as your parents supposed, you went a-fishing; and many a time did you imperil your young life in places where you had no business to climb, or swim, or venture. To get you through your first fifteen years of your life and your good morals was a fearful strain upon parental fidelity and endurance. Indeed, it may be the effect of this present physical and mental weakness in your parents may have been a result of your early waywardness. You have made such large and sudden drafts upon the bank of their patience that you broke the bank. They were injured in being thrown while trying to break the colt. It is a matter of only common honesty that you pay back to them some of the long-suffering which they paid to you. A father said to his son, "Surely no father ever had as bad a boy as I have." "Yes," said the son, "my grandfather had." It is about the same from generation to generation, and parents need to be patient with children, and children dutiful to their parents. Taking it for granted that those who hear me to-day have had a good parentage, I want to urge upon all the young the fact that the happiness and the usefulness of parents much depend upon the right behavior of their children, and I can do this no more effectually than by demonstrating the truth of my text, "A foolish son is the heaviness of his mother."

Perhaps some young man astray may be brought back by a thought of how they feel about him at home. A French soldier lay wounded and dying in the hospital at Geneva, Switzerland. His father, at home, 70 years of age, heard of his son's suffering, and started, and took the long journey, and found the hospital; and as he entered the sanctum: "O, father, I am so glad you have come to see me die. "No," said the father; "you are not going to die; your mother is waiting for you, and I am going to take you home; I have brought you money and everything you need." "No," said the soldier; "they give me here everything that is nice to eat, but I have no appetite, and I must die." Then the father took from his knapsack a loaf of rye-bread, such as the plain people of his country ate, and said, "Here is a loaf of bread your mother made, and I am sure you can eat this; she sent it to you." Then the soldier brightened up, and took the bread and ate it, and said, "It is so good, the bread from home, the bread that my mother made!" No wonder that in a few days he recovered. O, young man, wounded in the battle of life, and discouraged, given up by yourself, and given up by others, the old folks at the country fireside have not given you up. I bring you bread from home. It may be plain bread, but it is that bread of which if a man eat he never again shall hunger. Bread from home! Bread from home.

Carrying out the idea of my text, I remark that a reckless or dissipated son makes a heavy-hearted parent because it hurts the family pride. It is not the given name, or the name which you received at the christening that is injured by your prodigality. You cannot hurt your name of John, or George, or Henry, or Mary, or Frances, or Rachel, because there have been thousands of people, good and bad, having those names, and you cannot improve or depreciate the respectability of those given names. But it is your last name, your family name, that is at your mercy. All who bear that name are bound before God and man not to damage its happy significance. You are charged, by all the generations of the past and all the generations to come, to do your share for the perfection and the honor and the integrity of that name. You have no right, my young friend, by a bad life to blot the old family Bible and obliterate the story of the marriages and births and deaths of the years gone by, or to cast a blot upon the family Bibles whose records are yet to be opened.

Further, the recklessness and dissipation of a young man are a cause of parental distress at a time when the parent is less able to bear it. The vicissitudes of life have left their impression upon these parents. The eye is not as clear as once, nor the hearing as acute, nor the nerves as steady, nor the step as strong, and with the tide of incoming years comes the weight of unfilial behavior. You take your parents at a great disadvantage, for they cannot stand as much as they once could. They have not the elasticity of feeling with which once they could throw off trouble. That shoulder, now somewhat bent, cannot bear as heavy a burden as once it could. At the time when the machinery is getting worn out you put upon it the most terrific strain. At 60 and 70 years the vitality is not so strong as at 30 or 40. Surely they are descending the down grade of life swiftly enough without your increasing the momentum. They will be gone soon enough without your pushing them away. Call in all the doctors who ever lived since Hippocrates raised medicine from a superstition to a science, and they could not cure the heart-break of a mother over her ruined boy. There may be, as some suppose, enough herbs on earth, if discovered, to cure all the ailments of the body; but nothing save a leaf from the tree of the heavenly paradise can cure a wound made by a foolish son who is the heaviness of his mother.

Perhaps it is a good thing that cruel treatment by a child abbreviates a parent's life; for what is there desirable in a father's life or a mother's life if its peace is gone? Do you not think death is something beneficent if it stops the mother's heart from aching and her eyes from weeping, and says: "You need not bear the excruciation any longer. Go and sleep. I will put the defence of a marble slab between you and that boy's outrages. Go now where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest?" At the departure of such mothers let the music be an anthem instead of a dirge. While you and I hear no sound, yet there are at this moment tens of thousands of parental hearts breaking. All care was taken with the boy's schooling, all good counsels given, and the equipment for a sober and earnest and useful life was provided, but it has all gone, and the foolish son has become the heaviness of his mother.

Much of the poignancy of the parental grief arises from the ingratitude of such behavior. What an undertaking it is to conduct a family through the ailments and exposures of early life! Talk about the skill demanded of a sea captain commanding a ship across the ocean. That requires less skill than to navigate a young soul in safety across the infantile and boyhood years. The sicknesses that assail, the temptations that entrap, the anxieties that are excited! Young man, you will never know what your mother has suffered for you. You will never know how your father has toiled for you. You have been in all their thoughts, in all their plans, in all their prayers, from the time your first breath was drawn to this moment's respiration. What they would do for your health, what they could do for your happiness, what they could do for your mind, what they could do for your soul, have been absorbing questions. To earn a livelihood for you has not always been an easy thing for your father. By what fatigues of body and what disturbances of mind, and long years of struggle, in which sometimes the losses were greater than the gains, he got bread for you, paying for it in the sweat of his own brow and the red drops of his own heart's blood! He looks older than he ought to look at his years, for it has been work, work, work. Many a time he felt like giving up the battle, but then he looked at your helplessness and the helplessness of the household, and then he nerved himself up anew and said: "By the help of God I will not stop; my children must have home and education and advantages, and a comfortable starting in the world, and I must get a little something ahead, so that if I am taken away these helpless ones will not be turned out on the cold charities of the world." Yes your father has been a good friend to you. He has never told any one, and he never will tell any one, of the sacrifices he has made for you. And he is ready now to sign on until into that hand that has been toiling for you all these years shall come the very numbness of death. You cannot afford to break his heart. But you are doing it. Yes, you are. You have driven the dagger clear in up to the hilt.

And your mother—I warrant she has never told you much about the nights when you were down with scarlet fever or diphtheria, and she slept not a wink, or falling into drowsiness, your first cry awakened her and brought the words, "What is it, my dear?" Oh, if the old rocking-chair could speak! Oh, if the cradle could only tell its story of years! And when you got better, and were fretful and hard to please, as is usual in convalescence, she kept her patience so well, and was as kind as you were unreasonable and cross. Oh, midnights of motherly watching, how can you keep silence? Speak out and tell, wandering young man the story that he so much needs to hear.

By the bye, I wonder what has become of our old cradle in which all of us children were rocked! I must ask my sister when I see her next time. We were a large family, and that old cradle was going a good many years. I remember just how it looked. It was old-fashioned and had no tapestry. Its two sides and canopy all of plain wood, but there was a great deal of sound sleeping in that cradle, and many aches and pains were soothed by it as it moved to and fro by day and night. Most vividly I remember that the rockers, which came out from under the cradle, were on the top and side very smooth, so smooth that they actually glistened. They must have been worn smooth by a foot that had long ago ceased its journey. How often the foot that prayed sometimes must have got! But it did not stop for that. It went right on and rocked for Phebe the first and for DeWitt the last. And it was a cradle like that, or perhaps of modern make and richly upholstered, in which your mother rocked you. Can it be for all that care and devotion you are paying her back with harsh words or neglects, or a wicked life. Her? Unfeeling wretch that you are the "foolish son who is the heaviness of his mother." Better go home and kiss her, and ask her forgiveness. Kiss her on the lips that have so often prayed for you. Kiss her on the forehead that so often ached for you. Kiss her on the eyes that have so often wept over you. Better go right away, for she will be dead before long. And how will you feel then after you realize it is your waywardness that killed her? Unless made so by law against patricide, or the slaying of a father, matricide, or the slaying of a mother, because he considered such crimes impossible, and for six hundred years there was not a crime of that sort in Rome. But then came Lucius Ostius, and slew his father, proving the crime possible. Now, do you not think that the child who, by wrong behavior, sends his father to a premature grave, is a patricide, or who, by misconduct, hastens a mother into the tomb, is a matricide?

The heaviness of parents over a son's depravity is all the greater because it means spiritual disaster and overthrow. That is the worst thing about it. In the pension regulations a soldier receives for loss of both hands or feet $72. For loss of one hand and one foot $36. For loss of a hand or a foot $30. For loss of both eyes $72. But who can calculate the value of a whole man ruined body, mind, and soul? How can parents have any happiness about your future destiny, oh young man gone astray? Can such opposite lives as you and they are living come out at the same place? Can holiness and dissipation enter the same gate? Where is the little prayer that was taught you at your mother's knee? By the God you loved and worshiped your God? It is your soul about which they are most anxious, your soul that shall live after the earth itself shall be girdled with flames, and the flames, dying down, will leave the planet only a live coal, and the live coal shall have become ashes, and then the ashes shall be scattered by the whirlwinds of the Almighty.

"But," says some young man, "my mother is gone; my behavior will not trouble her any more." What! Is she dead? How you startle me! Is she dead? Then perhaps you have her picture. Hang it up in your room in the place where you oftenest look. Go and study her features, and while you are looking the past will come back, and you may hear her voice, which is now so still, speak again, saying: "From my heavenly home, my dear boy, I solicit your reformation and salvation. Go to the Christ who pardoned me, and he will pardon you. My hearing will not be completed, I hear all your changing. But I will hear of it right away, for there is joy up here when one sinner repenteth; and oh, if the next news of that kind that comes up here might come up regarding you, oh my child of many tears and anxieties and prayers! Come, my boy, do you not hear your mother's voice? O, my son, my son, would God that I could die for thee! O, my son, my soul! Young man! what news for the angels will you send in your conversation? Swifter than telegraphic wire ever carried congratulations to a wedding or a coronation would fly heavenward the news of your deliverance; and whether the one most interested in your salvation were on the river bank, or in the temple, or in the battlements, or in the great tower, the message would be instantly received, and before this service is closed angel would cry to angel: "Rejoice with me now! Oak Lawn! is a mother who has just heard of her wayward boy's redemption. Another prodigal has got home. The dead is alive again, and the lost is found. Hallelujah! Amen!"

Wonderful Case of Suspended Animation in Hancock County, Ohio.

A remarkable case of suspended animation is reported from the village of Mt. Blanchard, O. On Sunday, March 9, Arthur, the four-year-old son of Aaron Nous, after a long illness, apparently died; all the signs of life were gone. There was no breathing, no pulse or warmth of the body. The undertaker was sent for and proceeded to prepare the remains for burial, accomplishing his work in the full belief that the child was really dead. The body remained in this condition until about 3 o'clock Monday afternoon, when those about the coffin were amazed to observe signs of life. The family was called, and a physician summoned, and it was not long until it was apparent that the boy was alive. His resuscitation was complete. He has continued to grow stronger until there is now no doubt of his full recovery. It is the most wonderful case ever reported in the county.

Influenza is raging in Teheran, causing 70 deaths daily. Several members of the Shah's household are among the sufferers.

The Farm.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Flax Culture.

N. O., Manhattan, Kan.: A good alluvial or vegetable loam is the best for flax. In rich soil the fibre grows too coarse, and on a hard soil flax will not do well. Fresh barnyard manure is not good, but salt, lime or gypsum are proper manures. Gypsum should be applied after the flax is developed, and while dew is on the ground. It should be put on in moderate quantity. All the saline manures, as a top dressing, are good. A good wheat is always a good flax soil. Sow broadcast from 16 to 30 quarts per acre if wanted for seed, or two bushels if wanted for the fibre. The surface of the soil should be well pulverized. If the soil is very rich, three bushels may be sown to the acre, if the object is to get fiber. There is a great difference in seed. The heaviest is the best, and should be of a bright brownish cast, oily to the touch. It should be lightly harrowed or brushed in and rolled. When three or four inches high it should be weeded. When designed for fine textile fabrics, flax is pulled when flowering; but in this country it is seldom harvested for the fiber until the seed is fully formed, and although not entirely ripe, most of it will mature if pulled while the fiber is in its full strength. If intended for seed, it should be left standing until the first seeds are well ripened. It is then gathered and bound in small bundles, and when dried is placed under cover. If it falls before ripening, it should be pulled without delay, as this is the only way it can be saved. In this country flax is usually prepared, after drawing the heads through a comb or rake to remove the seed, by dew rotting, or spreading it thinly on a green sward, and turning it occasionally until properly rotted, after which it is put into bundles and stored until it is convenient to clean it. This is a wasteful method. Water rotting is to be preferred. This is done in vats or small ponds of soft water, and makes the flax worth more for various purposes than dew rotting. An acre of land will yield 300 to 1,000 pounds of fibre, and 15 to 30 bushels of seed. Flax is an exhausting crop when grown for seed, but if pulled or harvested before the seed ripens it does not hurt the land. The seed may be purchased at any seed store. You can always find a market for the seed, and there is a fair, but not active demand for the fibre. It is claimed by many agriculturists that the flax industry would rapidly increase if the United States government would give it greater protection.

Incubators.

THE BLADE some time since gave two ways of making an incubator. One or both of these articles will be reprinted in a week or two. The editor will also give his idea of how to run one. There are several kinds of incubators, most of which are patented. Those that are not generally have an advertisement attached to them. It is now so late in the season that all are advised to have eggs hatched in the old-fashioned way by a hen. Some people make a great success with an incubator, while others make a failure of it.

Warts on Cattle—Ticks on Sheeps.

Y. H., Gardnersville, Ky.: Try rubbing the warts for two weeks with unsalted lard. If this does not remove them, touch them with nitric acid, being careful not to get any of it on any sound part, but the warts. To get rid of ticks, dip both sheep and lambs when the sheep are shorn, and again in August or September in this: Steep coarse tobacco or tobacco stems in water at a boiling heat, but not boiling, 4 lbs. to 20 gals. of water. Then stir in this decoction a pound of sulphur. Bring all to a temperature of 120 degrees, and keep it warm by the addition of fresh liquid. Then dip, pouring or sprinkling the decoction so that it will not subside. A large tub may be used for dipping. Drop the sheep back downward into it, with feet and nose and eyes out of the liquid. To the tub have a raised platform, tight, so that when the sheep is dipped, stand it up on the platform so that the liquid may drop off and run back into the tub to be used again.

Oil Cake for Sow.

A Subscriber, Living Spring, Iowa: A little oil cake would do no harm to a sow a week or two before farrowing, but there is danger of giving too much, and it may be injurious instead of a beneficial food. You are advised to be cautious about using it. Oil cake for breeding sows is good if used judiciously. It increases the quantity and quality of the milk. A sow, two weeks before having her pigs, should be given charcoal and salt in small quantities. She should be let out of the pen for an hour or so every nice day, as this keeps her bowels in good condition. She should also have a full supply of fresh water. When corn or oil cake is fed, a good supply of bran slops should be given (not too sloppy), as it prevents constipation.

Very Likely Worms.

Mrs. A. B. L. Moran, Kansas: Your dog is very likely suffering from worms. Give the dog 1 to 2 drachms of freshly powdered areca nut in broth. It must be given directly, as it soon gets very bitter. At first there is no taste to it. The exact dose is 2 grains for each pound the dog weighs. If the dog refuses it give it as a drench. Afterward, in about one day's time, give him a dose of castor oil, one and a half teaspoonfuls.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Concerning Hemp.

W. T. A., LeRoy, Kan.: The soil for hemp may be similar to that for flax, but with a wider range from a uniform standard. It will thrive in a moderately tenacious clay, if rich, drained, and well pulverized. It will do equally well on reclaimed muck beds. New land should be cultivated two or three years before planting flax in it. A grass sod or clover bed is best adapted to it. Early sowing produces the best crop, yet it should not be sown so early as to be exposed to frosts. From April 10 to June 10 embraces the range when it should be sown. Seed of last year's growth is best. From four to six pecks of good seed is sufficient per acre. The best is of a bright reddish color. It is usually sown broadcast, and harrowed in both ways and rolled. It may be sown in drills, which expedites planting, and less seed is necessary. If the soil is of a dry nature, it is better to put the seed deeper into the ground, which may be done with the cultivator. If sown in drills soak it previously to insure early germination. No after cultivation is required. So soon as the blossoms turn a little yellow, and begin to drop their leaves, which usually happens from three to three and a half months after sowing, it is time to cut the crop. Cutting is now resorted to instead of pulling. Plow under roots and stubble for manure. When cut, spread the hemp on the ground where it is grown, taking care to keep the butts even. As soon as sufficiently dried, bind into convenient sheaves, and if destined for water rotting, transport it to dry ground convenient to the pools, secured in round stacks, well thatched on top to keep out rain; but if for dew rotting, it should be secured in the same field in large ricks. Ricks should be about 5 feet in diameter, and 15 to 20 feet wide, with a foundation of rails or logs six feet from each other. Throw the sheaves of hemp into two rows with space for a wagon to pass between. In laying down the hemp, begin with the top ends of the bundle inside. The best time to spread hemp for dew rotting is in December. It then receives what is called a winter rot, and makes the lint of the hemp a light color. To tell when it is sufficiently watered, a trial of a little of the hemp will be made. When sufficiently watered the hemp loses its hard, sticky appearance and feel. The lint also begins to separate from the stalk. After breaking and rotting it should be immediately put in shocks of suitable size, without binding. If it is dry the shocks should be at once tied with a hemp band, by drawing the tops as closely together as possible. If damp, the shocks should be left untied. The best plan for water-rotting is in vats, under covers, to dump in this way gets a perfect rotting at all seasons of the year. Water-rotting in a stream requires more or less time, according to the season. In September 10 days is sufficient, when the water is warm; in October, about 15; in December, 30 or more days. For the raising of seed, an old pasture or meadow, heavily manured and plowed in the fall, and well pulverized in the spring, is best. Plant seed as for corn, either in hills or drills. Plant four feet apart each way, and allow four stalks to stand in a hill. The ground should be well prepared by two plowings and a number of harrowings. After seed hemp has attained the height of a foot and-a-half, it will soon be too large to plow, but it should have one plowing after it has been plowed with a shovel plow both ways, and the hoes used after the second plowing. When the seed hemp has so far advanced that the male from the female plant may be distinguished, let the blossom hemp be cut out, except one stalk in every other hill and every other row. This would leave one stalk of male hemp for every four hills. These, together with the stalks that should thereafter blossom, would be sufficient to fertilize all the seed-bearing plants, and secure a crop of perfect seeds. After the blossom plants have discharged their pollen, they also should be cut down. A seed-bearing hemp crop is a great exhauster of lands, but hemp grown from fiber takes but little fertilizing matter from the soil. Unlike most crops sown broadcast, it grows with such luxuriant strength as to keep the weeds smothered, and may be grown for successive seasons on the same soil.

Must See Something "Sticking Out."

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—THE BLADE is good and reflects great credit on the publishers. It wears well. The longer we wear it the better it fits. Would to God every periodical was equally moral and instructive. Poultry is one of our best industries. But we are bound to acknowledge it is grossly neglected. We all know the reason. It is not due to any indolence or slothfulness of the American farmer, because we all know the American farmer is not indolent, neither is he slothful. The trouble all comes from the fact that very few know the exact profit there is in this industry. Our farmer is wide-awake to his own interest, and as he is not likely to pay much attention to anything he does not see something "sticking out" of in the way of profit. That much can be said to his credit, but at the same time I am inclined to wonder at his oversight in looking clear over poultry and seeing no profit "sticking out" there; it not only sticks out very plainly, but I am sure if he will drop back to it and work it with half the energy and faithfulness that he puts to his other work he will make the startling discovery that he has overlooked the cream of the farm. Why do I say this? Because I know it to be true. My little plantation is like Mr. McLeod's—only, I guess, worse—hardly rich enough to sustain a goat; yet by an exclusive and industrious attention to our feathered pets I am enabled to smoke my pipe of peace and plenty. My friends, I have not even got sufficient soil to raise grain enough to feed my fowls through the long winter months, but am compelled to rent grain ground or buy the grain. That is the nature of my farm (20 acres), but for all that the neighbors do not have to make me any donations to enable me to live. I can loan money to-day that was made off those "pesky cusses," and some farmers owe them. Great care should be taken to feed fowls correctly this season of the year to get the best results of eggs. Go to them and shovel out a whole lot of dry corn and oats, and you'll soon have a colony of fat, lazy fowls that could not be induced under any consideration to lay an egg. Give them very little grain. That clover hay chopped and soaked is a clever idea; plenty of vegetables cooked up, scraps of meat and, in fact, as great a variety as possible. A fine idea is to tie sheaves of oats tightly around the middle with heavy twine and swing them a little off the ground and let them pull at it and chase it around for all they get. This gives them a good appetite. But not too much oats, mind you. One thing more and I am done. I'll wager a hat there is not one poultry raiser that contributes the columns of THE BLADE who made the discovery I have: "To be able to control the sex of the fowls they raise." Please understand me. The sex is really controlled by a higher power. But to be able to take you to a setting of eggs under a hen and tell you there will be just so many male chicks and so many hen chicks from that setting. What do you think of that? You do not believe it, I know. But your humble servant knows he can, and each year of his business he knows he'll have (barring bad luck), and your humble servant has no fears of a downy hen chick cooing impudently from an egg that he has hocked otherwise. Remember everything has its scientific secret. An egg will either bring forth a cock or hen. Where the secret is I have not said. When the sex is determined in the egg, I have no fear of being found 10 days or many hours of patient, watchful study has rewarded me with the knowledge, which is as plain as day. I will do anything to aid the poultry raiser, but find a delicious enjoyment in keeping this secret until the proper time. If our good editor gives this space, I will take courage and come again some time in the future.—E. PERSON, Springville, Indiana.—If the discovery of how to judge the sex of eggs is a valuable one, and the editor shall be pleased to know more about it.—ED.]

Carp Culture.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—H. O. Hart, M. D., Ohio, asks for information on carp culture. Having had some experience, I will give, briefly, my knowledge in that branch of farming: They hibernate in the mud during winter, and must have air-holes through the ice or they will suffocate. The best way to accomplish that is to take a salt barrel, knock out both heads, and as soon as the ice will bear the weight of a man, insert the barrel in the hole in the middle of the pond, and well down. It will freeze in tight. Cover the barrel with straw a foot or so thick, and well out and around the barrel, so that the water may not freeze in the barrel. Catch them with hook and line baited with red bait—lean beef, red cherries, a high-bush cranberry, or anything of that sort. Keep back out of sight and throw your hook over the bank that you may not be seen by the carp.

I had a fine pond of carp in 1883. The mink got in unknown to me and destroyed my original crop. I sold that portion of my farm on which was the pond and went out of the business.—EDWIN REYNOLDS, Matawon, Wisconsin.

The Way to Catch Carp.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—Make a frame 24 inches square, of narrow strips six feet long. The bottom pieces should be four inches wide, fastened to a tight bottom, forming a box to hold feed. The top and end pieces may be 1x2. Now cover the two sides, top and end with plastering lath, placing them near enough to keep the fish from passing out between. Then, for the other end, use some material cut about 22 inches long, nailing one end to inside of bottom and top frame pieces, the other end being sharpened to a point and extending inward full width of box, points coming very near together, say within two inches. The slats should not be too stiff, so that they will yield a slight pressure of the fish in swimming in. When the box is completed pour in two or three gallons of coarse meal and wheat, and sink well under water in the pond, securing any way to prevent it from turning over. Let it remain over night, or from eight to twelve hours, before raising. Have taken from 25 to 100 fish at a time. Can add feed and set. The fish remain in box several days. Try this and report results.—WM. H. CONN, Columbus, Indiana.

Profit in Grown Hens.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—Seeing the interest taken in the poultry business, which is destined to become the greatest industry in the United States, I will make a few remarks. I am in no way connected with the business at present, yet I would gladly add one mite to foster the business. What I shall say is addressed more directly to those living at a distance from market or from where the chickens and eggs are consumed, and as experience (the essential thing to give) is in vogue, I will give a bit of mine, but only approximately from memory, as my record is lost since my wife's death.

My wife being a farmer's daughter, was inclined to retain some of the relics of farm life, and living in the suburbs of town, I might her a few dozen chickens one spring, and in a short time she began setting them, and kept on until we did not get enough hen fruit to supply our own table, against which I protested very earnestly. All things had to yield to the poultry business, from which a young fortune was shortly expected; but how full of disappointment is life, for after setting some seven hundred eggs and hatching some five or six hundred young chicks and all through spending a good portion of my income from my practice for food, for grain was high that year, we came out next winter with about one hundred and fifty young chickens, the rest having been divided up amongst the minks and weasles, skunks and rats, hogs and hawks, and hail, rain, cholera and various other things, until I began to think, as many farmers do, that chickens ate their heads off several times a year. I realized that something must be done, or my wife's business would be ruined, so began calculating and experimenting, and soon saw that raising chickens was the wrong part of the business.

I will now give things as I found them after a few years' experimenting. I found that when chickens had common outrange (not a stock yard), fifty pounds of grain will keep one chicken one year, and almost every hen will lay 100 eggs in a year if she is not allowed to set.

Now, eggs at 12 cents per dozen will make her produce one dollar or more, and grain at one cent a pound will make her cost 50 cents. Now let us see about raising chickens, which all undertake, and then declare poultry does not pay.

I consider that it takes as much to raise a chicken to maturity as it does to keep one hen one year, considering the food has to be ground and the time lost by her in raising a brood and eggs lost in setting, and the death rate amongst young chickens is much greater than among grown ones; we will not say anything about rustling out just before a hailstorm to get them into shelter, or getting up from a sound slumber while your wife is telling you to hurry up, there is something in the box after the chickens.

Now, if it will cost fifty cents to keep a hen one year, it will cost fifty cents to raise a chicken to maturity, which is worth from fifteen to twenty-five cents, which I think shows why farmers are justifiable in saying that chickens ought to be banished to China or some other heathen nation. Some one says yes, but how will you replenish your flock? Why, this way—your neighbor's wife over there would die or lose a great deal of her vitality if she is not allowed to rustle about and raise two or three hundred young chickens, and you can buy of her, even if you have to give five or ten cents extra, for it will not pay you to raise them if you will stop to figure the cost. I am not speaking to those who live near large towns, for I know nothing of marketing young chickens, but I do want to call the farmers' attention to the fact that it will not pay him to raise chickens, but I want to say with emphasis that no other farm stock will pay the profit that grown hens will. To those marketing young chickens, give us your exact figures of what it takes to make a young chicken weigh two pounds or three pounds, counting all the cost that should come against it. Exact experimenting is what we need.—J. M. K., Hill City, South Dakota.

Keeping Apples.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—I want to ask some reader who has been fortunate in keeping apples the past winter, to give the readers their methods minutely. Whether they use cellar above or below ground, on shelves, in bins, barrels, or how? Also variety that keeps best and sells well, so that we may learn how to care for the next crop.

As the days turn warm you will soon have to get to gardening, and a good one every farmer ought to have, filled with plenty of rhubarb, currants, gooseberries, the different herbs, and abundance of good vegetables in season; in fact, there is no excuse for not having one. Select, if possible, a southern slope; if you can not an east slope is good; then see to the drainage, for a wet garden is a poor, wet, late one; not a place for vegetables. Manure in the fall and plow, and in the spring you will have easy gardening. Place beans, peas, etc., in rows the whole length of the spot so as to be able to use the horse and plow, flushing with the hand hoe, and you will not have much trouble with the garden.—PERKINS D. FISHER, Newburgh, Ind.

About Middlemen Making All the Profit.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—I see an article in the Farm, under date of February 6, by Eugene Gorham, in which he complains that the middleman is making all the profit, while the farmer does not make 4 per cent on the money invested, with his time and labor thrown in. Although I do not think that things are quite so bad as that out here in the far west, yet we think that we can better ourselves by organization.

We have a state alliance, county alliances, and local alliances, wherever we can get the farmers interested. And let me say right here, that although we have been organized only a short time, that we can feel that the effects of the alliance are for good to the farmers in general, and we believe that we are on the right track.

Why should not the farmer have his say in regard to what laws shall govern him? If a body of farmers, say 1,000 men, petition a legislature for the repeal or the passage of a certain bill, can those legislators ignore them? I trow not.

Only a short time ago our legislators at Olympia were about to pass a bill obnexious to the farmers, but when they found out how the farmers stood on the question, some of its former friends faced about and knocked the bill into a cocked hat. They knew that the farmers of Eastern Washington were organized, and that they were sent there to do their bidding and if they failed off would come their heads.

The charge has been made repeatedly that the "farmers can not stick together;" let me refer all such to the Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas alliances and several other of the states which have had their alliances for years and have made the strong hand of monopoly tremble.

We do not wish to antagonize capital, nor to pick quarrels with middlemen; but we do wish to have a fair price for our grain, and to get the necessaries of life at a reasonable rate. We believe out here in Washington that all men are free and equal, and we want to so be recognized.

Therefore, I would say to farmers everywhere, organize. Union is strength. With the farmers of the United States as well organized as other classes of labor are at the present time, they can rule all railroad companies, all legislative halls, and the halls of commerce throughout the length and breadth of our beloved land. And instead of the farmer bowing and cringing before the strong hand of monopoly, he can hold it down as the engineer does fire and lightning, and use it so it will be a good servant instead of a creature of dread.

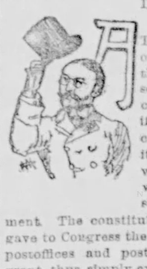
The farmer feeds all other classes, should he not be entitled to a fair profit for his labor, so that he may maintain and educate his family and have a little time for recreation? I think all fair minded men will answer "yes." Let me hear from others of the great Alliance family. I have read THE BLADE for many years, think it the best of newspapers and believe that I am voicing the sentiments of thousands of your readers when I thank you for the many privileges we receive through its columns.—FIAT JUSTITIA, Almota, Washington.

OUR POSTAL SYSTEM

Conclusion of the Article by Expert Master General James.

[Written for THE BLADE. Copy right, 1890.]

II.



AT first glance the postoffice establishment of the United States seems to be a very complicated affair, but if you should once become acquainted with its workings you would be charmed with the system shown in its management. The constitution of our country gave to Congress the power "to establish postoffices and post roads." Upon that grant, thus simply expressed, the entire postal system of the country has grown.

Let us glance, briefly, at how this important branch of the government is managed, and see what it does for the people. Take, first, the officers of the department. There is the postmaster general. It is his business to establish and discontinue postoffices, to instruct persons in the postal service with reference to their duties, to superintend their disposal of the moneys, and attend generally to the business of the department. About fifty persons are employed under him in the office.

There is the chief clerk, who is a sort of personal superintendent of all the other clerks in the department. An appointment clerk keeps a list of all the persons employed in the department all over the country. Applications for appointment in the service and recommendations for promotion are filed with him. There is a superintendent who takes care of the buildings used by the department and of the furniture in the same. The first assistant postmaster general has the general care of postmasters and their instruction, and gives general information concerning the postal service, its laws and regulations. The second assistant postmaster general decides on how and by whom the mails throughout the country shall be carried—the transportation of the domestic mail, as it is called. He makes up the time-table showing when mails shall arrive and depart to or from the different towns and cities.

The Third Assistant Postmaster General

is a sort of treasurer of the department, for he attends to the collection of the revenues of the postal service and keeps accounts of the postal receipts. Sometimes there are questions of law that have to be decided, a citizen threatens to sue the government on account of some alleged negligence on the part of a postal employe, or a clerk in some office has been guilty of violating the printed rules and regulations according to which the work of the department is conducted. To provide for such contingencies the office has the services of a capable lawyer, called the assistant attorney general, whose duty it is to give his opinion to the postmaster general or the heads of the several departments upon any question which may arise in the way I have stated.

The head of a department may think that such and such a man stole or embezzled stamps from his office. The evidence, as it has been furnished the chief official, will be laid before the Assistant Attorney General. After looking it over he may come to the head of the department and say to him: "You had better not have this man arrested. You may honestly think he is guilty, but I can tell you as a lawyer that when you come into court you can not convict him on the evidence you have against him and which you have shown me. Better drop the case against him and make further efforts to find the real culprit."

In such cases, and in many others involving what are termed questions of law, the services of a competent counsellor are found necessary in the Postoffice department. These are a few of

The Principal Officers

of the Postoffice department. There are other superintendents and chiefs of departments whom it will not be necessary to refer to here, although their duties are quite necessary and important, and each of the leading officials I have named has a number of clerks and subordinates under him to help him in his duties.

I suppose that the postmaster general receives more letters than any other man in the United States. You have heard of people who are always wishing that some one would write to them and are never so happy as when they hear the postman's knock. You will recall, too, the character of Mr. Toots in Dickens's "Dombey & Son," who was a young man of this description, and who, falling in persuading any one to write to him, was in the habit of writing to himself epistles of considerable length, which he would receive from the postman with an air of much concern and read the same in the presence of his friends. The postmaster general of the United States is not obliged to resort to this service for the purpose of receiving letters and of obtaining thereby a glow of momentary excitement. When I had the honor a few years ago of occupying the position alluded to, the mail addressed to the postmaster general was so large that it took five clerks to sort it out and distribute it to the proper departments.

For, you must understand, that many of these letters referred to purely official business which, even if they were oppened by the postmaster general, would have to be referred to some of his subordinates; very often the direction on the letter would be accompanied with a word or two showing the character of the communication, in which case it would be sent at once, without being opened, to the proper official. In other cases, when the clerks would open the letters, they could tell at a glance to which branch of the department the letter belonged, and it would be so referred.

But, aside from this vast mail, there were daily an immense number of letters addressed to the postmaster general and marked "Personal," which he, of course, had to open, read and answer himself. This correspondence would occupy all the space on a good-sized writing desk, and when I tell you that the gentleman who received them would be occupied often until 1 o'clock in the morning in dictating answers to two shorthand writers, you will understand something about the work of the chief official of the Postoffice department.

Nearly every village and hamlet in the United States now has its postoffice, but the system through which this convenience has been brought about has been a gradual growth. One improvement has followed after another, until now we have one of the finest postal services to be found in the world. A few years ago in some of our cities and in some sections of our country private corporations, and sometimes private individuals, carried the mails. Now, however, it may be said that

The Matter of Mail Transportation

Is a government monopoly. The government will not allow any interference with its performance of these duties, and why? Well, first, because the revenues for the support of the service might thereby be impaired, and, second, this exclusive assumption assures to all the people the best postal advantages. You would not be allowed, for instance, to start an express wagon for the conveyance of letters over any route where the mail is now regularly carried; nor would a person in a city be allowed to take letters addressed to different parties out of the postoffice, and deliver the same in place of the regular public carrier.

One of the most beneficial developments of the postal service has been that which has had reference to the safe transportation of money.

First, we have the system of registering valuable letters. Instead of putting your money in an ordinary envelope and sending it with the usual amount of postage you pay 10 cents additional postage, and by a system of records and receipts, the postoffice can keep track of the letter through its various officials after it has left you handed up to the time it is given to the person to whom it is addressed, and whose receipt for its safe delivery you will finally receive.

This plan worked so well that after awhile the government gave us the money-order system. The amount of money sent every day by thousands of people from one part of the country to the other is enormous, and the money-order system grew out of the wonderful increase in our population and the immense territory comprised in the United States. Then, too, we are a restless people. Brothers, sons, and daughters leave their old homes in the East, and go West or South to better their business prospects, or on account of marriage. In the mercantile world small sums of money are continually being sent from one part of the country to the other. How convenient, then, to have a safe and cheap method of transmitting such sums!

The Money-Order System

has answered this purpose admirably. You simply go to the postoffice, buy your order, pay a small

people are imperiled. They are struggling against adverse circumstances and almost against hope to sustain themselves until relief shall come. The people believe that these conditions are more generally due to the vicious legislation. They have been promised by each of the great political parties that something would be done for their relief.

"Both parties have been tried and both have thus far failed even to attempt any measure contemplating a betterment of the condition of the industrial masses. They have seen that while they have been compelled to sacrifice their products in many instances absolutely below cost of production in order to procure the common necessities of life, and in the effort, in many cases unsuccessful, to keep the sheriff from invading their homes, their representatives in Congress are engaged in the consideration of every imaginable question except such questions as contemplate relief to the distress of their constituents.

"There are measures which the farmers demand shall have immediate attention. These relate to questions of money, of transportation, and of their ownership of American lands.

"The distress of the people is crying aloud for relief. They believe that very many of the questions that are receiving the attention of Congress are far less urgent than those upon which the safety of their homes and the welfare of their families depend.

"They believe that the white citizens of Kansas have some rights as well as the colored citizens of the south. They believe that fallen heroes, both white and black, of the past struggles for liberty and the popularity of our institutions, can wait for one moment until the rights of living heroes in the present struggle for American homes, receive some recognition by the men who have been chosen to represent them in congress. Behind these demands are more than 100,000 ballots in the state of Kansas, and the time is coming and is not far distant, when legislators will heed the voice of their constituents."

WASHINGTON NEWS.

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Deliberations of the Two Houses for the week.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The attendance of senators at the opening prayer was so small that a call of senators was ordered; and after a quorum was thus obtained the journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Among the petitions presented and referred was one from Florida asking a duty of $1 a box on foreign cigar boxes.

Mr. Mitchell introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of senators by the votes of the qualified electors in the states, and that the world at an early day address the Senate on the subject.

In the House, in pursuance of the agreement made Saturday, the public building bills which had passed the calendar were taken up this morning, with the previous question ordered. The bills were passed. They provide for the erection of public buildings at the following points: Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Atchison, Kan.; Jacksonville, Ill.; Lafayette, Ind.; Baton Rouge, La., and Fremont, Neb.

Also, for an increase in the limit of cost of the buildings at Scranton, Pa.; Dallas, Tex., and Springfield, Mo. The measures involve an expenditure of $1,845,000.

The bill to make Wyoming a state was discussed in committee of the whole.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The concurrent resolution for the investigation of immigration matters was laid before the Senate, with the two House amendments extending the investigation to the purchase of American industries by foreign capital and to the use of Bedloe's island, in New York harbor, as an immigration depot. Mr. Chandler moved to concur in the House amendments. The motion was agreed to, and so the concurrent resolution has passed both Houses.

The Senate then proceeded to vote on the resolution to exclude from the *Congressional Record* the interpolations made by Mr. Call in the report of the discussion with Mr. Chandler on the 20th of February. The resolution was agreed to—yeas 36, nays 16. The Democrats voting in the affirmative were Means, Payne, Pugh, Cockrell and Vance.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the resolution reported on the 10th of February from the committee on privileges and elections, declaring that it is the sense of the Senate to elect a president pro tempore, who shall hold the office during the pleasure of the Senate and until another one is elected, and shall execute the duties thereof when the Vice President is absent.

Mr. Turpie moved to amend it by making it read that the president pro tempore shall hold the office "during all future absences of the Vice President." Agreed to. The resolution was then agreed to without division.

The educational bill was then taken up. The Senate ordered that a vote on the bill shall be taken at 3 o'clock Thursday, the 20th instant.

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A bill was passed extending the time of payment to purchasers of land from the Omaha tribe of Indians in Nebraska.

Mr. Cannon, from the committee on rules, reported a resolution setting aside to-day and to-morrow for the consideration of the Oklahoma bill, and final vote to be taken at 4 o'clock to-morrow. The resolution was adopted, and accordingly the House went into committee of the whole (Mr Payson, of Illinois, in the chair) on the Oklahoma bill.

Mr. Kelly, of Kansas, offered an amendment providing that the general statutes of Kansas (instead of Nebraska) shall extend over the territory until after the first session of the legislative assembly.

Mr. Chickson, of Michigan, protested against thrusting upon the Indians in Oklahoma the unspeakable, undescribable curse of whisky shops. He protested against it in the name of humanity, in the name of common decency and in the name of plighted faith of this great nation.

Mr. Tarsney, of Missouri, said that last summer he had attended court in Southwestern Kansas. One day he noticed the judge scowling and looking fierce. Finally the judge looked up and beheld the prosecuting attorney shaking a bottle of beer at the judge, not in an intimidating manner, but in a bewitching, enticing manner. [Laughter.]

Mr. Stewart, of Georgia, offered an amendment (as a substitute for Mr. Kelly's motion) providing that section 2139, revised statutes (prohibiting the introduction of intoxicating liquors into Indian Territory) shall be in force in the territory until after the adjournment of the first legislative assembly, which was agreed to, 70 to 47.

Pending further discussion the committee rose and the House adjourned.

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The Senate proceeded to the calendar and passed bills for public buildings aggregating $695,000.

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The bill authorizing the President to retire Gen. J. C. Fremont with the rank of major-general, was taken up. No final action was taken, and the House took a recess, the evening session to be for the consideration of private pension bills.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Senate not in session.

In the House.—After the adoption of a couple of resolutions calling on the departments for certain information, the House proceeded to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of the late William D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania. Mr. O'Neill, of Pennsylvania, reviewed at some length the career of the dead statesman.

Mr. Holman, of Indiana, and Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, briefly and touchingly eulogized the deceased member. Mr. Mills, of Texas, bore testimony to the worth of Mr. Kelley, whom he characterized as one of the most distinguished statesmen of the Union.

Mr. McKinley, of Ohio, paid his tribute of respect to the old friend for whom, in life, he had had the most affectionate regard, and in whose death all had lost an honorable associate and wise counselor, and some a very close and dear friend.

Eulogies were also pronounced by Messrs. Bingham, of Pennsylvania; Wilson, of West Virginia; Cannon, of Illinois; McKenna, of California; Reilly, of Pennsylvania; Atkinson, of Pennsylvania; Breckinridge, of Kentucky; Kerr, of Iowa, and Reyburn, of Pennsylvania, and then, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the House adjourned.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Latest List sent in by the President.

The President sent to the Senate the following nominations on March 13:

Henry C. Gooding, of Indiana, to be chief justice of the supreme court of Arizona; Alexander Ramsey Hininger, U. S. marshal for the Northern district of Alabama (Chas. C. Austin withdrawn).

Andrew Davidson, of New York, first deputy commissioner of pensions, vice Hiram Smith, jr., resigned; Robert Waugh, of Iowa, agent for the Indians of the Uintah and Ouray agency, Utah; Pedro Sanchez, supervisor of the census, district of New Mexico, vice Horatio Ladd, declined; Jos. H. Hughes, receiver public moneys at Spokane Falls, Wash.; Franklin Sweet, register land office, Grand Island, Neb.

The President sent to the Senate on March 17 the following nominations:

United States Consuls—William S. Preston, of New York, at Cognac; James S. Kellogg, of Louisiana, at Stettin; Alfred W. Street, of New York, at Cardiff; Samuel B. Ziegler, of Iowa, at Aix la Chapelle; James R. Danforth, of Pennsylvania, at Verviers and Liege.

Withdrawn—James R. Danforth, of Pennsylvania, for United states consul at Keil.

Frank Burnett, of Missouri, supervising inspector of steam vessels for the fourth district (St. Louis).

Daniel Lake, United States marshal for the eastern district of New York.

William Van Buren United States marshal for the eastern district of Michigan.

The President, on March 12, appointed John B. Weber, of Buffalo, Commissioner of Emigration, and Gen. J. R. O'Beirne first assistant Commissioner of Immigration.

THE WOOL SCHEDULE.

Explanation of the Changes Made by the New Tariff Bill.

David Harpster, president of the Ohio Wool Growers' association, and Judge Wm. Lawrence, a member of the same association, have prepared for publication the following statement, explanatory of the wool schedule in the tariff bill now under consideration by the House committee of ways and means:

We have examined for the first time to-day schedule K, providing for duties on wool and manufactures of wool prepared by Hon. Wm. McKinley, chairman of the House committee on Ways and Means, and his associates on the committee, and find ourselves agreed to the two House amendments extending the investigation to the purchase of American industries by foreign capital and to the use of Bedloe's island, in New York harbor, as an immigration depot. Mr. Chandler moved to concurrence in the House amendments. The motion was agreed to, and so the concurrent resolution has passed both Houses.

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We have examined for the first time to-day schedule K, providing for duties on wool and manufactures of wool prepared by Hon. Wm. McKinley, chairman of the House committee on Ways and Means, and his associates on the committee, and find ourselves agreed to. It proposes a duty of 11 cents per pound on clothing wool, double on washed, and treble on scoured; on combing wool 12c per pound, and treble on scoured wool; on unwashed carpet wools of the value of 12c and under, the duty changes at the last port of export, the duty to be 3 3-4c, and if unwashed, 7c; if scoured, 8¾c; on carpet wools valued at 12c the duty on unwashed is 8c, doubled if washed, and trebled if scoured.

If perforated bills of lading shall have to be deposited in the custom houses and contains provisions to prevent round-lot frauds, "sorting frauds," "admixture frauds," and defines washed and scoured wools. As to so-called carpet wools the provisions are much better than were ever incorporated in any tariff law, and these are the wools that are injuring the wool industry of the United States more than any other. We learn, upon reliable authority, that under the law, as it now stands, 70 per cent of carpet wools being imported will make excellent clothing, such as was used by our soldiers during the war, and that if shaggy goods continue to increase in fashion as they have during the past few years, 75 per cent of the carpet wools imported will be used for clothing; and further, that if clothing wool can be imported as carpet wool at 2 2-3c per lb duty of 11c on clothing wool will not be operative; that if the cost of carpet wools is too far above the cost of carpet wools, manufacturers will abandon the use of merino wool to some extent for the cheaper carpet wool, thus bringing down the price of merino wool.

The farmers of the United States and the people generally will so prosperity is dependent on the success of our agricultural industries are to be congratulated on the fact that Maj. McKinley and his associates upon the committee on ways and means have proposed a measure of such immense value. The proposed duty is an increase of 1c per pound on clothing and combing wools over the present law.

The Senate bill which passed January 22, 1889, proposed 4c on carpet wool whether washed or unwashed, but the rates of the proposed bill of 5½c on unwashed with the high rates on washed and scoured make it much better for wool growers than the Senate bill. Besides which the restrictive provisions of Maj. McKinley's bill in connection with his administrative bill add much to the protective features as well as wools and in these respects are much better than those found in any previous tariff law. We now respectfully urge the friends of protection to American industry all over the country to appeal to their representatives in Congress to give their support to this measure and not to surrender any one feature of its protective provisions.

The Sugar Schedule.

The Republican members of the ways and means committee have finally reached an agreement upon the sugar schedule. They have agreed to make raw sugar from 16 Dutch standard down dutiable at 35 per cent advalorem. This is equivalent to 50 per cent reduction on many grades of sugar and to more than 50 per cent on others.

The reduction will average a cut of above 50 per cent and will reduce the revenue from 25 to 28 millions of dollars. There is no provision made for the payment of any bounty whatever. The cut in the sugar duty which will thus be made is more than two and a half times that proposed by the Mills bill, and the duty will be collected upon the value and not upon the pound as heretofore.

The duty given to the refiners is only 5 per cent more than that given the raw sugar men and the classifying of raw sugar as 16 or below will admit two grades of merchantable sugar fit for domestic uses. It is hoped and believed that this will take away from the refiners the power to raise the price of sugar to the consumer at will.

The Republicans regard this heavy reduction on the sugar duties as a most generous concession to the sentiment. The rate fixed is lower than the rate fixed by the Senate tariff bill, and is moreover free from the objection raised against the Senate bill, viz.: the bounty clause. The Senate bill made a reduction of 50 per cent and gave a bounty of one cent a pound. The action of the Republican members of the Ways and Means committee makes a cut of even more than 50 per cent, and eliminates the experiment of paying a bounty to one class of producers directly from the treasury.

Bonds Purchased.

The Treasury department statement of United States bonds purchased from August 3, 1887, to and including March 15 1890, shows:

Amount purchased—4s, $126,049,350; 4½s, $135,452,550; total, $261,501,900.

Cost—4s, $160,569,817.03; 4½s, $145,987,-174.95; total, $306,556,991.94.

Cost at maturity—4s, $214,747,697.50; 4½s, $152,902,962.72; total, $367,651,660.20.

Saving—4s, $58,177,880.47; 4½s, $6,916,-787.77; total, $65,094,668.26.

Miller vs. Elliot.

The House committee on elections heard argument on March 14 upon the contested election case of Miller vs. Elliot, from the seventh district of South Carolina. The contestant was represented by Dudley and Wheeler, while Eppa Hunton appeared for the contestee.

The Lease Executed.

Secretary Windom on March 15, executed a lease with the North American Commercial company, of New York and San Francisco, for the taking of fur seals on the islands of St. Paul and St. George, Alaska, for a period of twenty years from the 1st of May next.

Have Gone South.

Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Wanamaker, Mrs. Russell B. Harrison, Miss Wanamaker, Mrs. Wilson of Philadelphia, Miss Robinson of New York, Mr. Russell B. Harrison and Mr. Hammond of Trenton, N. J., left Washington at 11:30 on March 13, in the private car of J. H. Inman, president of the Richmond & Danville railroad, for a trip south.

The Oklahoma Bill.

The Oklahoma bill, which is a substitute for the Senate bill on the same subject, has passed the House by a vote of 160 to 25.

Comes to a Vote.

The Blair educational bill will come to a vote at 4 o'clock Thursday, March 20.

SENATOR SHERMAN SPEAKS

On the Matter of the Fifteenth Amendment—Debate with Eustis.

Again has the Senate screwed down the weight on the safety valve, and turned itself loose on the Southern question. It was brought about by Mr Eustis, who, on March 13 challenged statements by Sen. Hoar that Southern law allowed the sale of negroes. Mr. Hoar produced the Mississippi statutes and read an act providing that freed men, free negroes and mulattoes who were found with no lawful employment, and that all white men assembling with freed men, free negroes and mulattoes, or usually associating with them on terms of equality, should be deemed vagrants and should be subject to punishment by fine and imprisonment. The law (he said) contained the two provisions to which he had referred, and he thought that substantially the same law had been enacted in Louisiana.

After discussing the educational bill, the Southern question came up again.

Mr. Sherman asked Mr. Eustis whether he did not know that the Fifteenth Amendment never would have been prepared but for the fact that laws of the Southern states were depriving the negro of his rights of citizenship. That (he said) was certainly a fact.

Mr. Eustis replied that it was his honest conviction that all the unconstitutional measures, all the extreme legislation and constitutional amendments were adopted by the Republican party with the single object of Africanizing the South, and maintaining political supremacy; and he characterized it as "the greatest crime ever committed against civilized communities."

The debate from here on grew warm.

Mr. Sherman, after much cross-firing, said:

Let me say to the senators on the other side, in all seriousness, that there is a feeling in the North that injustice has grown out of the fifteenth amendment, and that not only have the negroes of the South been deprived of their votes, but that the people of the South now enjoy larger political power than the same number of the people of the North. You have thirty odd members of the House of Representatives based on negro representation. Now let the South do as it ought to do. Let it obey the constitutional amendments. Let it give the negro his vote and permit him to vote as he will. We are not there to control him. We are not there to drive him. And I would not have if the whole of the negroes would vote the Democratic ticket.

But this feeling of injustice does prevail in the North; a feeling that while you are depriving the colored people of their votes, you are exercising an undue power in the government. And until that is remedied—either through the negro voting or through the negro being excluded from the basis of representation—there never will be a feeling of content and equality among the people of the northern states. And now you complain of us. For what? For injustice, wrong, violence or bloodshed? No. You complain that we demand justice. We deny the hatred, but we demand the justice. And until the southern states give these colored people their rights under the constitution there will be disquiet and discontent, and a feeling of injustice. I trust that the time will come when even this feeling will disappear, and when every man shall have a right to vote.

And I now say that, beyond and above this educational bill, or any other pending measure, is an act of Congress that will secure to every man in the United States who is entitled to vote his right to cast his vote and have it counted. Whenever Congress rises to the dignity of passing such a law that will be uniform throughout the United States, affecting Massachusetts and Ohio as well as South Carolina and Mississippi, every man will feel that that is a just and fair law and there will be no further ground of complaint. Congress can exercise any control in local affairs in the Southern states and does not claim a right to do so; but what we insist upon is that there shall be a law that will protect the right of suffrage and that that law will be executed with such changes that no man dare expose himself to its penalties.

Mr. Butler replied to Mr. Sherman. He spoke of the exclusion of colored men in the Northern states from all political offices and said that on the contrary there was no discrimination in the laws of South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana or Georgia against a man on account of his race, color or previous condition of servitude; and that a number of colored people in those states were holding offices to-day. He instanced Mr. Sherman's own state as having a colored man was representing a Congressional district of North Carolina. So that he would say to the Senator from Ohio, who had remarked with such a patronizing attitude that the south should do so and so, that the Northern states would do right to the colored people a good deal of the friction would disappear.

This very day and this very hour and for the last week the newspapers have been teeming with accounts of white men in the territory of Oklahoma (and Republicans among them) announcing to the world that if the colored people dared to assert their rights to control that territory by reason of their superiority in numbers they would drive them out at the point of the bayonet. He had seen within the last month accounts of outrages upon colored people in Ohio and Indiana, and of their being pursued to the death by white mobs, and yet he had never heard one syllable of protest. He believed that the great body of the people of the north were kindly disposed toward the people of the south, and that that kindness had been very much misunderstood by the millions of money were being sent into the south for investment. And he would tell the Senator from Ohio that whenever he attempted to carry out his threat of another crusade upon the south, through the agency of the United States Marshals, for the purpose of dominating elections there, he would have a fire in his rear from the men who had carried their money and their industry into their south. These people would be born with a rifle in one hand to vote, order, through evil report and good report, in preserving in those southern states the same character of government that existed there to-day.

Service Pensions.

Representative Morrill, of Kansas, has introduced a bill providing a service pension to soldiers of the late war and their wives, etc. It grants a pension of $8 per month to any officer or enlisted man, 62 years of age or over, who served 90 days in the army, navy or marine corps during the late war and received an honorable discharge.

All soldiers who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service in the late war, and who are now or who may hereafter be suffering from mental or physical disability equivalent to the grade now established in the pension office at $8 per month, shall be granted a pension of $8 per month during the existence of the disability. In the case of any officer or enlisted man who served three months and has died, leaving a widow over 62 years of age, it is provided that such widow shall be granted a pension of $8 per month during widowhood.

It is further provided that any officer or enlisted man who served three months or more in the late war who has died, leaving a widow without other means of support than her daily labor or minor children under the age of 16 years, such widow or minor children shall be granted a pension of $8 a month during widowhood, and in case of her death leaving a child or children under 16 years such pension shall be paid such child or children, provided she shall have married the soldier prior to the passage of this act. Mr. Morrill says the enactment of this bill into a law would place about 400,000 additional pensioners on the rolls at once and about 52,000 each year thereafter.

Disabled Soldier.

Senator Ingalls has introduced a bill providing that a soldier who has lost both eyes or one arm and one leg, may get married, at any time he may so desire, to some one to take care of him, and at his death the soldier's widow shall receive $12 a month as long as she remains single. If the soldier's wife refuses to live with and care for him, he may, after her absence of six months, procure a divorce from any county court upon the payment of $5.

Kelly's Election Bill.

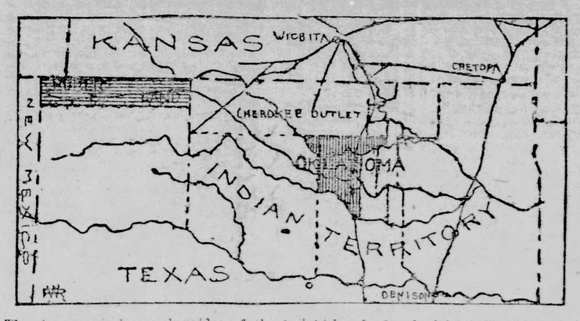
Mr. Kelly, of Kansas, introduced a bill in the House on March 18, for the election of members of the House. It declares that no state law or constitution shall deprive a citizen once duly authorized to vote for a member of the legislature of his right to vote except upon conviction of felony. Congress is to fix the congressional election districts in each state immediately upon the publication of the census returns, and the determination of the basis of representation. Districts are to be made up of contiguous territory, and as nearly equal in population as possible; and in case Congress fails to arrange the districts ninety days before election the representatives are to be elected from the state at large. District judges are to appoint commissioners of elections, at a salary of $1,500 per annum, who shall prescribe the precincts and election places, transmit returns and preserve ballots. They shall also appoint registrars of voters, who shall nominate four associates to hold the elections. The commissioner is to furnish ballots. If persons are by intimidation prevented from voting, they may file a statement of their intention with the commissioner of elections. The elections are to be held on the Australian system.

Wheat in Store.

Figures collected on March 18 by the *Northwestern Miller* show the stock in private elevators, which is not included in the visible supply statement, to have increased 24,000 bushels. This leaves the stock of wheat at three points as follows: Minneapolis, public elevators, 7,502,678 bushels; Minneapolis, private elevators, 1,974,000; St. Paul, 295,000; Duluth, 4,896,297. Total 14,-667,973 bushels; increase for the week, 195,268 bushels.

The pope will appoint a metropolitan of Toledo and four suffragan bishops, the Japanese government consenting.

THE NEW OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.



The above map gives a clear idea of the three divisions of land which are thrown together to form the new territory of Oklahoma. The bill creating the territory, as it passed the Senate, made it out of the two shaded tracts on the map, marked "Public Land" and "Oklahoma" thereon.

This "Public Land Strip," otherwise known as "No Man's Land," is bounded by Kansas and Colorado on the north, Texas on the south, New Mexico on the west, and the 100th meridian on the east. It contains 3,672,640 acres.

Oklahoma proper, the shaded section in the the center of the map, lies between the Cherokee outlet and Canadian river, and has for its western border, except at the northwest corner, the 98th meridian of west longitude. It contains one million eight hundred and eighty-seven thousand eight hundred acres.

The House has amended the bill by adding the "Cherokee Outlet" to the new territory. This will, as will be seen by an inspection of the map, unite the two separate sections of the territory. The Outlet contains 6,022,244 acres. The new territory will thus have a total of 11,572,684 acres.

The House amendment, however, while adding the "Cherokee Outlet" to Oklahoma Territory, made a proviso that no lands which the Indians occupy, under treaty or law, shall be included without their consent, except for judicial purposes. The rest of the Outlet is declared to be public land, open to settlement under the homestead laws, by proclamation of the President

FOREIGN.

BISMARCK RESIGNS.

He and Emperor Wilhelm Can't Agree—His Successor.

All Berlin was on tiptoe on March 17 on account of the rumor, which all but had official sanction, that Prince Bismarck's relations had at last become so strained that he had decided to resign and permit the young emperor to run the affairs of state to suit himself. Newspaper correspondents are having much trouble in getting dispatches to their papers, and only negative news is allowed to pass through the telegraph offices.

BISMARCK.

The London *Standard* had a long message filed, but all that was sent was the following: "The German officials decline to forward my message." The London *Times* correspondent sent the following to its paper, and it was allowed to go:

Something must have occurred in connection with the labor conference to cause Prince Bismarck's unexpected action.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, who arrived yesterday, appears to have failed in his attempt to mediate between the emperor and the chancellor.

All that the London *Daily News* correspondent was permitted to send was the following, filed at midnight:

All telegrams are rigorously inspected by the authorities and are stopped if they go beyond mentioning what is officially announced. The ostensible cause of the resignation of Prince Bismarck is a divergence of opinion between the chancellor and the emperor concerning factory inspectors. It is reported that the emperor has refused to accept Count Herbert Bismarck's resignation.

No two newspapers in Berlin take the same view of the situation, and the American papers are receiving better reports than are printed in the press there. One of the papers on the 17th states that the emperor has not yet decided whether he will accept Prince Bismarck's resignation, but it is believed in official circles that his majesty will give a final decision soon. Other morning papers affirm that the Emperor on the 16th informed Prince Bismarck that he would not insist upon his remaining in office if it was his desire to retire to private life, and in the same article the name of Gen. Caprivi is mentioned as the successor of the chancellor.

EMPEROR WILLIAM.

On the 18th a report was in circulation to the effect that all the members of the Imperial ministry have resigned, and that a crisis is to occur in the affairs of the German empire. These rumors, together with the excitement that the striking carpenters at Stettin have struck for higher wages, and that Bonn has been visited by a disastrous earthquake, all tend to place Berlin in a decidedly agitated condition.

3 o'clock—It is stated in well-informed political circles that the present difference between the emperor and Prince Bismarck is irreconcilable. It arises from the chancellor's refusal to accede to a request of the Stettin have struck for higher wages, and that Bonn has been visited by a disastrous earthquake, all tend to place Berlin in a decidedly agitated condition.

3 o'clock—It is stated in well-informed political circles that the present difference between the emperor and Prince Bismarck is irreconcilable. It arises from the chancellor's refusal to accede to a request of the Duke of Cumberland, the claimant of the throne of Hanover, the larger portion of the Guelph fund.

4:30 P. M.—The Emperor continued to withhold his formal acceptance of Prince Bismarck's resignation. His reason for not accepting is that the constitution does not admit of a interregnum in the tenure of the chancellorship, and, as the choice of a successor to Prince Bismarck is beset with difficulty, his majesty defers his acceptance until he finally decides who he shall appoint as chancellor.

All the members of the Prussian ministry resigned at the same time Prince Bismarck tendered his resignation.

5 P. M.—It is just announced that Prince Bismarck's resignation of the chancellorship was accepted by the emperor at noon on the 18th.

ANOTHER CRISIS.

The French Ministry Has Handed in Its Resignation.

The adverse action of the French senate on March 13 on Prime Minister Tirard's demand for a vote of confidence on the question of the commercial treaty with Turkey has brought about the downfall of the entire ministry. All the members gathered on the 14th at the palace of the Elysee, the residence of President Carnot, and formally tendered their resignations.

The Causes That Led to the Tirard Minister's Fall.

A French paper of March 14 has the following editorial in regard to the French crisis:

"The immediate cause or rather the pretext, which has brought about the fall of M. Tirard had not, as has frequently happened before, any importance of itself.

The interpellation made to the Senate on the treaty of commerce with Turkey has only been used to bring about a crisis which really applied to an incident in general politics. This incident was the replacing of minister of the interior Constans by M. Bourgeois a radical Republican. The Tirard cabinet had not, so to speak, any prominent political color. It was a good average business cabinet, with a little leaning toward the left, but not enough to destroy the equilibrium and just within the limit of the general opinion of the majority. It is because this limit was passed in the installation of M. Burgeois in the place of M. Constans that the Senate determined to make a demonstration against M. Tirard."

The French Cabinet.

The new French cabinet is composed as follows:

President of the council and Minister of war, M. De Freycinet; minister of foreign affairs, M. Ribot; minister of the interior, M. Constand; minister of finance, M. Rouvier; minister of justice, M. Falliores; minister of commerce, M. Roche; minister of public instruction, M. Bourgeois; minister of agricultural, M. Delvels; minister of public works, M. Guyot; minister of marine, M. Barbey; minister of colonies, M. Etienne.

STRIKE OF THE MINERS.

Some of Them Returning to Work at an Advance.

A quarter of a million miners are on a strike for higher wages in England. They claim to be able to remain idle for four weeks and hope in that time to have their demand for advances acceded to. The strike will, it is thought, be of short duration. Even a short stoppage of operations will cause serious derangement of industries. If the strike lasts even one week scores of factories will have to be shut down, throwing many thousands of persons out of work. Prices of coal are advancing rapidly. The strike coming at the time of the labor conference in Berlin, shows that the English miners have little faith in any good coming out of the German conference.

Ten thousand miners in North Wales joined the strike on March 17.

The coal carters of Liverpool have joined the strike.

Twenty thousand Tyneside engineers joined the strike on the 17th.

The General Opinion is that the Workmen Will Succeed.

It is the general opinion that the striking miners of Great Britain will succeed in forcing the masters to concede their demands for an immediate advance of 5 per cent in their wages and a further advance of 5 per cent on July 1.

Many more mine owners in Nottinghamshire and Lancashire have acceded to the demands of the men. The feeling prevails that the action yesterday by the coal mine owners, who, after deciding to refuse the demands for increased wages, appointed a committee to confer with a committee of the men on Thursday and endeavor to secure joint action for the regulation of work and the avoidance of strikes in the future, will be productive of no results, as the men will not meet the mine owners unless they insist upon their full demands being granted.

The cotton mills at Accrington, Blackburn, Bury and Holton are stopping work, owing to the scarcity of coal because of the miners' strike.

The London & Southwestern railway company is also suffering from the scarcity of coal. The officials have instructed the engineers to use as little coal as possible in the use of fuel. One of the consumers ordered is the stoppage of all fires in the waiting rooms of the stations along the line.

The Labor Conference.

The new German military credits amount to 64,000,000 marks